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NEWS RELEASE

EIGHTH ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON ROLE OF FREIGHT, REGION'S FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Day-Long Forum Features Top Transportation and Trade Experts

Top transportation experts from around the region and across the nation will converge on Houston this morning to discuss how Harris County and the Texas Gulf Coast can maintain their position as one of the nation's premier transportation hubs for the North American continent.

Experts in economics, international shipping, transportation and logistics are signed up to attend and speak at the Eighth Annual Harris County International Trade & Transportation Conference this morning and afternoon. The conference, organized by Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, will begin at 9 a.m. in Room 600 of NRG Center.

This year's conference will feature presentations on the new emphasis on freight, future port needs, what manufacturers expect and infrastructure needs. The keynote speaker is Lance Fritz, the chief executive officer of Union Pacific Railroad. Others appearing include executives from oil companies and area ports as well as transportation planners, freight executives and transportation journalists.

Harris County Judge Ed Emmett has organized the conference for eight years in an effort to address current events in trade and transportation and to foster growth in the Texas Gulf Coast region.

All events are being held in Room 600 of the NRG Center at NRG Park. Attendance is open to the public, but registration is required. Those wishing to register can do so at www.harriscountyevents.net.