

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Houston Association's Annual Awards Recipients Announced

Houston, Texas (April 20, 2010) The North Houston Association (NHA) is pleased to announce the NHA awards recipients who will be recognized at the Annual Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 (visit www.north-houston.com for luncheon details). **Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia** will be the keynote speakers at this event.

The **North Star Award** is presented to an individual(s) or entity in north Houston that has made a long-term, significant contribution to the region. This year's award will be given to the **Lone Star College System** for adding to the economic development of the region through its new Lone Star College System - University Park and additional expansion of community college facilities. LSC-University Park is home to more than 4,000 community college students, a Corporate College specializing in customized employee training and workforce education, an expansive conference center of more than 14,000 square feet, a dining facility able to accommodate 1,000 guests, and a University Center that will offer upper-level and graduate programs from several of the best Texas universities.

The **Compass Award** is bestowed on an individual who is a member of the North Houston Association, and has made a significant contribution to the area and to the programs and projects of the Association. This year's award will be given to **Robert Maxwell, PE, with Jones & Carter, Inc.** for serving as Chairman of the Transportation Committee, a position he has held since 2005. He promotes the mission, goals, and projects of the NHA and the Transportation Committee in multiple ways. During the last five years, Mr. Maxwell and his committee have developed the NHA Strategic Mobility Plan, which communicates the mobility needs of region to the NHA members, the community and policy makers in the region. He also serves on numerous regional Boards, some as the official North Houston Association representative.

The **Environmental Impact Award** recognizes a company or entity for its efforts in preserving and protecting the environment in north Harris or south Montgomery County. The award recipient is the **Houston Airport System (HAS)** for partnering with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) since 2005 to lower emissions through the Voluntary Airport Low Emission (VALE) Program. Through 2008, HAS and FAA had partnered in a variety of initiatives via VALE: Preconditioned Air and Ground Power, Hybrid Vehicles and Electric Ground Equipment, Automated People Mover, and Fuel Hydrant System. In 2009, HAS proposed to undertake an emissions reduction project at Bush Intercontinental Airport's Central Plant facility, the first project of its kind for VALE. In August 2009, HAS was awarded an \$8.8 million-dollar Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant for the Central Plant Emissions Reduction Project, which is estimated to reduce harmful NOx emissions at the Central Plant by an estimated 80%.

The North Houston Association is a non-profit organization that identifies, advocates and supports projects and initiatives which advance the business environment and improve the quality of life in north Harris and south Montgomery counties. See www.north-houston.com .

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