# Houston Police Department SAFEClear Program July 28, 2015



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**Chief of Police** 

### **Purpose of SAFEClear**

- Clear wrecks and stalled vehicles from freeways
- □ Help improve mobility on freeways
- Reduce secondary accidents and traffic jams
- Reduce number of wreckers on freeway
- □ Reduce wrecker "Chasing"

#### **History of SAFEClear**

- □ SafeClear began in January 2005
- □ 11 vendors covering 29 freeway segments
- **■** March 2010 increase to 13 vendors

■ SafeClear contract extension July 2010

#### **How SAFEClear Works**

- □ Tow companies service designated freeway segments
- □ Coordination at scene and at Transtar to clear freeway incidents
- □ Disabled vehicles towed off freeway/roadside assistance provided

#### **Program Benefits**

#### 2014 SafeClear Performance Report \*indicates:

- Response times contributed to the reduction in collisions
- Civilian dispatchers at Transtar beneficial to the reduction of response times
- Probability of secondary collisions increases with higher duration times
- Law enforcement officers at incidents reduce duration time

#### **SAFEClear Updates**

- □ Fee changed from \$50 to \$60
- No additional charge for roadside service
- □ Steps in place for inability to pay at time of tow
- **□** HOV lanes included

#### Request for Qualifications

- April 17, 2015 Request for Qualifications
- 25 companies submitted proposals
- □ SafeClear Evaluation Committee: personnel from HPD, HCSO, PWE, and HGAC.

## **Implications of Awarding SAFEClear Contracts**

- **□** Continue to improve public safety
- **□** Continued monitoring of the program
- **□** Continued compliance of wrecker companies
- Preliminary planning for similar program in the county
- **□** Future Rice University response study

