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## IN THE NEWS

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### Annual study shows traffic congestion worsening in large and small cities [▶ READ MORE](#)

Traffic congestion continues to worsen in American cities of all sizes, creating a \$78 billion annual drain on the U.S. economy in the form of 4.2 billion lost hours and 2.9 billion gallons of wasted fuel—that's 105 million weeks of vacation and 58 fully-loaded supertankers. These are among the key findings of the Texas Transportation Institute's 2007 Urban Mobility Report.

### TRIP: Relieving congestion will require comprehensive set of transportation strategies [▶ READ MORE](#)

Alleviating increased traffic congestion, as detailed in the Texas Transportation Institute's new urban mobility report, will require that regions adopt comprehensive approaches to congestion that include measurable congestion-reduction targets and a mechanism for insuring that investments are adequate and are steered toward the most productive strategies for reducing congestion.

### Alaska's "Bridge to Nowhere" abandoned [▶ READ MORE](#)

Some called it a bridge to the future. Others called it the bridge to nowhere. Alaska decided the bridge really was going nowhere, officially abandoning the project in Ketchikan that became a national symbol of federal pork-barrel spending. While the move closes a chapter that has brought the state reams of ridicule, it also leaves open wounds in a community that fought for decades to get federal help. The \$398 million bridge would have connected Ketchikan, on one island in southeastern Alaska, to its airport on another nearby island.