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IN THE NEWS

Annual study shows traffic congestion worsening in large and small cities
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
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
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 $39.8 million bridge would have connected Ketchikan, on one island in southeastern Alaska, to its airport on another nearby island.