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## Secretary LaHood Visits TSU



***From left to right:** Dr. Charles Glass, Professor of Aviation technology; TSU - AFROTC Cadet Marvin Weatherspoon; Secretary Raymond LaHood; and Congresswoman Shelia Jackson-Lee.*

**Houston, TX – United** States Transportation Secretary Raymond LaHood visited the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in Houston, TX Friday, March 13, 2009 accompanied by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection.

Secretary LaHood and Congresswoman Jackson Lee visited a transportation site for the Houston Metro while also discussing the allocation of Federal stimulus funds. “I am thrilled to have the transportation secretary visit the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in order to survey Houston’s shovel ready transportation and infrastructure projects” stated Congresswoman Jackson Lee.

The first stop for Secretary LaHood was Texas Southern University where he heard student presentations about transportation research, visited the flight simulator and saw a demonstration of emissions testing research that TSU is engaged in with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT). Secretary LaHood and Congresswoman Jackson Lee

also visited the Houston Metro site at 320 North Main Street, as well as attended a luncheon at the University of Houston Hilton Hotel. The Congresswoman and Secretary LaHood met with small business owners in the Houston and Harris County areas and saw a demonstration on alternative energy by 9th and 10th grade engineering students at Booker T. Washington High School. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee said “It is wonderful to have the Secretary of Transportation take an interest in the transportation projects in Houston as well as the residents of the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District”.

Congresswoman Jackson Lee stated “New transportation and infrastructure projects in Houston will create approximately 50,000 new jobs and revitalize our distressed communities. The federal stimulus money, from \$83 million to \$183 million, is not only important, but essential for the people of Houston in order to rebuild and recover from these difficult economic times that we face.” Congresswoman Lee said she will “go to work hard to secure monies on behalf of Houston and METRO. We’re working to unlock the stimulus money.”

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