

Is Traffic Making the Southland Unsafe?

Los Angeles is the U.S. city least prepared to evacuate quickly in case of catastrophe, a new report shows. The American Highway Users Alliance study of the 37 largest urban areas showed that 25 of the biggest cities were less prepared for a major evacuation than was New Orleans before its recent flooding.

"The cities with the biggest traffic problems right now face the biggest challenge," said Greg Cohen, president of the organization. "Los Angeles did the worst. It has legendary traffic jams on a daily basis."

The cities were evaluated on internal traffic flow, highway capacity of major exit routes and residents' accessibility to automobiles.

For more information, go to highways.org



Know Before You Go

Why sit in traffic if you don't have to? Get up-to-the-minute freeway driving conditions—including estimated speeds, incident reports and more—at CommuteSmart.info, Southern California's #1 on-line commuter resource.



Favorite Traffic Reporters Honored with "Golden Pylon" Awards

Southland transit agencies honored the best in rideshare reporting at the 10th annual Golden Pylon Awards, held recently in Universal City. Five on-air traffic reporters were recognized for helping commuters find alternatives to driving alone to work. Winners were:

- Officer Richard Quintero, California Highway Patrol (Fox 11 and KMEX-34)
- Toni Jordan (KGGI and KMPC)
- Mike Nolan (KFI/KOST)
- Richard Santiago Jr., who translates traffic reports into Spanish for several traffic reporters, including Jeff Baugh at KFWB
- Lucie Hill, Metro Traffic (KTIE, KXCM, KQCM and KWVE)



Officer Richard Quintero, California Highway Patrol with one of last year's winners, Officer Rebecca Estrada.

