

# DRAFT

Dear QuickRide Participant:

Thank you for your participation in the QuickRide program. We hope the program meets your expectations and provides you a quick trip to your destination. **To ensure the success of the QuickRide program, it is essential that all participants follow the regulations on the proper display of the QuickRide permits.**

## **Procedure:**

Upon enrollment in the QuickRide program, you were issued a transponder (Fee Tag) and an Auto ID hang tag. Many QuickRide participants already had a transponder from the Harris County Toll Road Authority (EZ Tag). This transponder can also be used in the QuickRide program, thus an additional transponder is not required.

As a QuickRide participant, it is important to display valid permits while traveling on the Katy or Northwest (US 290) High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes with 2 people in your vehicle. The transponder (Fee Tag / EZ Tag) must be properly mounted in the vehicle you have registered with the Metropolitan Transit Authority (METRO). This will record the trips taken on the HOV lane when you are unable to have 3 or more people in your vehicle. Additionally, while traveling on the HOV lanes, the Auto ID hang tag must be displayed on the rear view mirror. This tag verifies your participation in the QuickRide program.

METRO's Police & Traffic Management Departments are responsible for monitoring the use of the HOV lane, therefore, it is important for all QuickRide participants to properly display the Fee Tag and Auto ID hang tag. METRO Police may ask users to pull to the side of the lane to check the Fee Tag and vehicle occupancy. The Auto ID hang tag will enable the Police to more easily identify vehicles as participants without checking the Fee Tag.

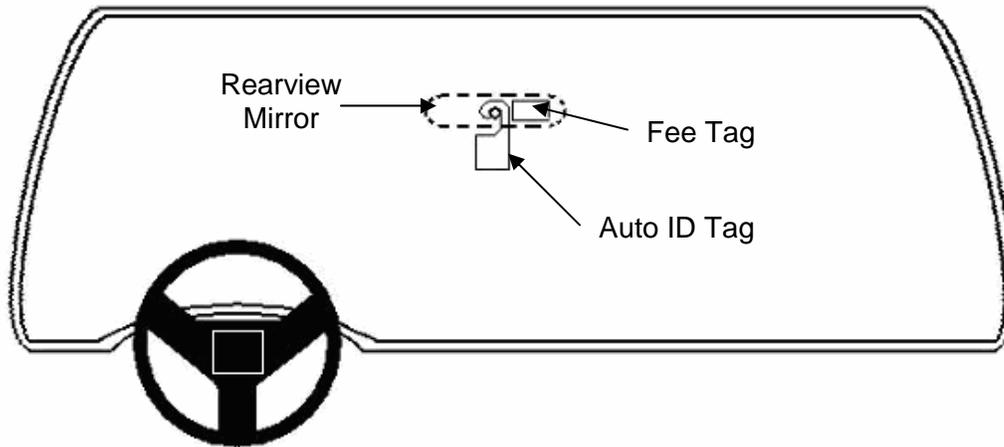
## **Location of Permits:**

It is necessary to properly display your QuickRide Fee Tag / EZ Tag and Auto ID hang tag to avoid being charged with a moving violation. The hang tag should be hung from the rear view mirror support so that it is clearly visible through the windshield. The hang tag also includes a monthly sticker to be placed on the upper left corner of the tag which should be up to date.

The transponder (Fee Tag/EZ Tag) must be attached to the inside of the front windshield by the Velcro tabs provided. It should be placed in the top center portion of the windshield to the right of the rear view mirror support. Please note that the transponder is not attached to the rearview mirror itself. The transponder should be located below any tinting of the front windshield. It is important that the transponder not be placed in a position that blocks the view of the hang tag. When 3 or more people are in the vehicle the transponder can be placed in the static free bag to avoid a charge.

# DRAFT

## Proper Mounting Location of QuickRide Permits:



## Violations of the QuickRide Program:

Failure to follow the QuickRide procedures for displaying permits is a ticketable offense. A participant in the QuickRide program will be charged with a moving violation (ticketed) under the following conditions:

- Traveling on the HOV lane during the time of operations with less than two persons in the vehicle. The participant is charged for a violation of the vehicle occupancy regulation that carries a maximum fine of \$200.00.
- Traveling on the HOV lane during the time of operations with two persons, but without the QuickRide transponder properly attached to the front windshield. It is a violation if the participant is enrolled in the program, but is not properly displaying the transponder while traveling the lane. The participant is charged for violation of the vehicle occupancy regulation that carries a maximum fine of \$200.00.
- Traveling on the HOV lane during the time of operations with two persons, but with an invalid QuickRide transponder (Fee Tag / EZ Tag) in the vehicle. The participant's account will be kept current by a \$30 charge to their credit card every time the participant's account balance falls to \$10 or less. If a charge is rejected, the participant must provide another acceptable credit card number to METRO before the account balance reaches zero; otherwise, the participant will be removed from the program and will be subject to fines for violation of the vehicle occupancy regulation. There is a \$10 charge for each lost or replaced hang tag.

With your help, the QuickRide program will provide a travel option that significantly decreases your travel time. Be sure to stay updated on all of METRO's alternative transportation solutions by visiting <http://www.hou-metro.harris.tx.us/>.

**Thank you for your participation in the QuickRide program**