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| **Tuesday, August 6, 2013 130806-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Metro Bus Operator Honored in Washington D.C. for Establishing Peru Village**  **First Phase of Gate Latching Completed** |
| **Metro Bus Operator Honored in Washington D.C. for Establishing Peru Village**  Carlos Medina, a bus operator at Division 8, was recognized in Washington D.C. for “Excellence in Leadership in the Peruvian Community” by the Peruvian American National Council and the U.S. Congress for establishing Peru Village LA. In an effort to add a layer of Peruvian culture to the diverse communities of Los Angeles, Carlos Medina and the Peruvian community formed Peru Village LA to create a geographic location in Los Angeles which provides community services, cultural bridges and promotes commerce and economic growth here and abroad. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti supports the proposal for Peru Village to be established on Vine Street between Melrose Avenue and De Longpre  Avenue. Peru Village may soon be added to the list of cultural neighborhoods Angelenos are very familiar with such as Little Tokyo, Chinatown and Little Armenia. For the complete story as posted on The Source, please click [here.](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/08/05/metro-bus-operator-awarded-for-efforts-to-establish-peru-village/)  <http://thesource.metro.net/2013/08/05/metro-bus-operator-awarded-for-efforts-to-establish-peru-village/>  **First Phase of Gate Latching Completed**  The first phase of gate latching throughout the 16-station Metro Red/Purple line concluded yesterday, Monday, August 5, 2013 with operations at the 7th Street/Metro Center subway station. This process began on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at Union Station and aims to bring greater convenience, accountability, and efficiency to all Metro riders. Gate latching requires passengers to use a TAP card loaded with appropriate fare to pass through turnstiles at rail stations. TAP is utilized as fare media on eleven other transportation providers including Metrolink, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Antelope Valley, Torrance, Foothill and Montebello. By the end of 2014 a total of 25 carriers will be a part of TAP, creating for the first time, a seamless regional transit system. In addition, our agency is analyzing data to determine if gate latching has affected fare evasion, ridership, and safety with a report to our board of directors expected later this fall. Also, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department deputies and civilian security personnel are providing added security onboard trains and buses as well as at transit facilities and stations. Security personnel are assigned to randomly check patrons on trains and at stations using electronic fare scanners to ensure proper payment is made. With the new fare gating system in place, our agency will better monitor passenger flow and usage of rail stations. Latching of five stations on the Gold Line, six stations on the Blue Line and fourteen stations on the Green line is scheduled to be completed by February 2014. Due to size limitations on platforms and other engineering concerns, we must note that not all stations can be latched. Stations are closely monitored from the Rail Operations Center and in the event of any equipment failures or other issues, gates can be unlatched remotely. Latched gates with wheelchair accessibility are also available to accommodate disabled patrons. Finally, extra customer support representatives are assigned at 7th Street/Metro Center to provide assistance. For the complete story and news release as posted on The Source, please click [here.](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/08/05/first-phase-of-gate-latching-complete/)  <http://thesource.metro.net/2013/08/05/first-phase-of-gate-latching-complete/> | |
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