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Adrian Alvarez, foreground left, and Ned Racine, background left, pick up new parking cars from Five Star Parking coordinators Sergio Morales, foreground right, and Fany Fuentes. Photo by Gayle Anderson.



## From Swipe to Tap: New System at Gateway Parking Entrances

By ELIZABETH LEIDER

(Jan. 26, 2007) The underground parking system at Metro Headquarters is changing from a swipe to a tap system. The move will affect employees who are monthly parkers and those who use Metro vehicles.

The change will be made the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 31, and will be in effect at the garage entrances on Vignes Street and Cesar Chavez Avenue.

Beginning Feb. 1, only daily parkers and employees using the new tap cards will be able to gain access to the garage. Daily parkers will continue to take a ticket from the machine at the entrance and pay for their parking on the way out of the garage.

The swipe machines will be replaced with a touch pad that is similar to those installed in elevators at Metro Headquarters to grant access to certain floors, according to Brian Soto, deputy executive officer of General Services.

To make the switch from the old to the new cards easier, Five Star Parking will set up a table in the cafeteria lobby between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Jan. 26, 29, 30 and 31. Employees will get their new cards after filling out an application.

The cards also will be available at the Five Star Parking Office, located on the P1 parking level, before 5 p.m. on Jan. 31.

The cost for monthly parking for Metro employees will remain the same, Soto says.

Monthly parkers are required to keep their old cards until after Feb. 2, when the cards can be returned to General Services, located on the 15 floor of the Gateway Building.

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