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| **Wednesday, May 1, 2013 130501-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Union Station**  **Union Station Master Plan** |
| **Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Union Station**  Union Station will be joining the Cinco de Mayo celebrations by welcoming transit customers on their way to the festivities at Olvera Street on Saturday, May 4, 2013 and Sunday, May 5, 2013. A gateway will be created through Union Station to guide the public to free performances, family activities, attractions and authentic Mexican cuisine at El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical monument. Union station will be dressed up with Mexican themed decorations to create a festive atmosphere and a strolling Mariachi band will be playing around the station from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. Union Station can be reached by the Metro Gold, Red and Purple lines, Metrolink and Amtrak, as well as a number of buses. Metro riders will receive a 10% discount when buying gifts at the El Pueblo Visitor Center by showing their valid TAP card to the cashier. To view the complete story as posted on the Source and to use the Trip Planner, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/04/30/celebrate-cinco-de-mayo-at-union-station/).  **Union Station Master Plan**  Executives from our Countywide Planning Department, project team consultants and Metro Media Relations conducted an online media briefing this morning for news reporters on the Union Station Master Plan draft alternatives, which will be presented at a community workshop Thursday evening, May 2, 2013 at the Japanese American National Museum in Little Tokyo. The project team reported that after nine months of data collection, analysis, and outreach to a broad array of stakeholders, the Union Station Master Plan team has developed four preliminary draft alternatives for the major transit components on the Union Station property. The alternatives are driven by the critical transit programming needs identified in the first task of the master plan, which include an integrated High Speed Rail system, co-location of bus operations, a new and expanded passenger concourse, and opportunities to expand both conventional and light rail in the future. The draft alternatives also identify opportunities for better east/west and north/south connections to the station, as well as opportunities for future connections to Union Station’s neighboring properties. Several major news outlets participated in the online briefing, with stories are expected to run later today and tomorrow.  <http://thesource.metro.net/2013/04/30/celebrate-cinco-de-mayo-at-union-station/> | |
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