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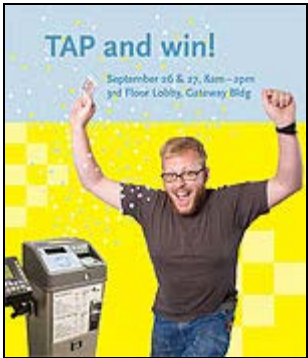
Employees to Test Drive Universal Fare TAP system

- [Test your TAP skills!](#)

CEO Roger Snoble:
"Every time I ride the system, I 'TAP.' I want you to do the same."



- "Come on down," says Project Manager Jane Matsumoto, "and you may win tickets to Disneyland, movie tickets and other prizes!"**



'Tap and Win!' Prizes

Metro employees are invited to test their Metro ID badge on Tuesday, Sept. 26 and Wednesday, Sept. 27, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the third floor lobby of Metro Headquarters and all day, both days, on any Metro Bus farebox or Metro Rail or Orange Line standalone validator.



(September 22, 2006) The two-day "TAP and Win" event on Tuesday Sept 26, and Wednesday, Sept. 27, is an excellent opportunity for Metro employees to become familiar with the TAP method of fare media.

Metro's Universal Fare System project has moved into high gear with new TAP ticket vending machines, validators and fareboxes installed throughout the system.

As the system makes its way

▼ Click on image to test your TAP skills! ▼

online, CEO Roger Snoble is directing Metro employees who ride our service to “tap” ID badges on the ticket vending machines, TAP fareboxes and validators whenever they ride buses or trains.

“I cannot stress enough the importance of Metro staff “tapping” their ID badges,” he said. “I am requiring all Metro employees to tap their ID badges as we complete installation of our new Universal Fare System.

“Every time I ride the system, I ‘TAP.’ I want all our employees to do the same,” he said.

Gateway Cities General Manager Alex Clifford, who is overseeing the TAP project, wants Metro employees to be the first to test this system. “Please ‘TAP’ your badges – coming and going from work, on a break or at lunch, every time you see a bus farebox or a rail or Orange Line standalone validator, please help us test this system,” he said.

Jane Matsumoto, UFS/TAP project manager, says the employee test run will reveal common mistakes that trump the use of the card. One common mistake is not holding the badge to the TAP target long enough for the system to acknowledge the transaction. Another common mistake is tapping the digital display on the stand alone validator instead of the round TAP target.

“The UFS equipment will track travel patterns, recording the time, location and which bus or rail line an employee boarded,” said Matsumoto. It will show how many employees are riding and where they boarded. The test period also will allow managers and Revenue Collection personnel to evaluate and adjust the system before public use begins.



"Tap and Win!"
Rules & Regulations

- Only Metro employees with a Metro Employee ID are eligible.
- Employees must tap their Metro ID on the fare box or stand alone validator and receive a valid response to be entered in the contest.
- Employees with Metro ID cards that do not work should go to Human Resources at the Gateway Plaza building to activate the TAP function on their ID card.
- Employees working outside the USG building who discover their cards do not work, should call 1.866.TAPTOGO to communicate the problem and HR will make arrangements to exchange their card for a working card.
- Winners will be selected by a drawing and notified by October 13, 2006.



Central City Division Transportation Manager Sonja Owens tests TAP on Metro Bus farebox as Operator Jorge Lozano prepares to begin his afternoon run.

Once in full operation, UFS will deduct the correct amount of money from a customer's prepaid TAP card, whether it is used on a bus or on Metro Rail. It will also recognize Metro passes, whether senior, disabled, regular adult or student.

Currently, UCLA has launched a smart card pilot with Metro on their I-TAP passes. UCLA employees, faculty and students will be "tapping" their Fall Quarter passes on all Metro bus and rail service as part of the UFS smart card pilot testing now in progress. More information will be forthcoming from our Employer Pass unit as UCLA "I-Taps" are seen on Metro Bus and Rail system.

The detailed customer information provided by UFS – garnered from the Metro system and from municipal operators – will help Metro provide service tailored to the needs of its customers throughout the region.

And, by the end of June 2007, TAP equipment should be ready for operation on most municipal transit buses – providing seamless travel throughout the region for Los Angeles County commuters.



For starters: TAP the farebox on your way through the Gateway lobby on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Matsumoto reminds us: "From this point on, your "flash pass" Metro ID badge should be tapped as you travel on the Metro Bus and Metro Rail."

"I really want to hear from all of our employees about their experience tapping their Metro IDs at fare boxes and validators. Please call our special TAP information line at 1.866.TAPTOGO (827-8646)," she said.

--from staff reports
Photos by Gayle Anderson