

**MEMORANDUM  
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Council Member Sherry Marquez  
Council Member Marvin Crist

DATE: July 13, 2010

SUBJECT: **Report on the Activities of the Board of Directors for the Antelope Valley Transit Authority**

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**Recommendation:**

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the June 22, 2010, regular Board of Directors meeting of the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA).

**Background:**

The Antelope Valley Transit Authority is a distinct government entity created under a joint powers authority agreement between the City of Lancaster, the City of Palmdale, and Los Angeles County that provides public transit services. Council members Sherry Marquez and Marvin Crist sit on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

The following significant events took place during the June Board meeting:

- The Board approved the fiscal year 2011 budget totaling \$19.8 million in operating expenditures and \$29.8 million in capital improvements. Included in the budget are the costs of taking the maintenance and parts contracts in-house and implementing route no. 8 for the City of Lancaster which serves the University of Antelope Valley. Lancaster's financial contribution to AVTA is projected at the same funding level as the first two previous fiscal years plus the operating costs for route no. 8.
- The Board gave input to the consulting team selected by staff to assist in the development of the request for proposal (RFP) for the next transit operator. The current contract with Veolia Transportation expires on June 30, 2011. Using their expertise, industry best practices and input from staff, the member jurisdictions and the Board, the consultant will develop the RFP, undertake analysis of the responses, and develop a recommendation to be delivered to the Executive Director.
- The Board considered changes to the joint powers agreement related to which member jurisdiction would act as the limit to AVTA's authority and the executive director's spending limit. In order to satisfy State laws related to joint powers authorities, the Board voted in favor of the City of Lancaster's city charter restricting AVTA's powers. The Executive Director's spending authority was raised to \$25,000 for the purchase of fixed assets and services as is not tied to the spending authority of staff position at the member jurisdictions.

All other items approved were routine.