

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Council Member Marvin Crist
Council Member Ken Mann

DATE: October 23, 2012

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

Recommendation:

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the September 2012 regular Board of Directors meetings 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 Marvin Crist and Ken Mann serve on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

The following significant events took place at the August Board meeting:

- **Attendance.** Alternate Director Tom Lackey from Palmdale attended for Director Jim Ledford
- **Special Report.**
 - Staff presented the first of 20 promotional videos that are being developed as part of AVTA's marketing plan. The Board requested the videos be available through each jurisdiction's websites as well.
 - Staff gave a regional emergency preparedness report sharing what staff learned about each jurisdiction's programs. Staff is obtaining specifications from the Fire Captain for a mobile command center and is speaking with CERT about their needs as the Board requested. The Board then approved a draft memorandum of Understanding for the Use of the Emergency Mobile Command Center.
- **Contracts.** The Board approved amendment to Veolia Transportation Contract #2011=032 to allow the use of recapped tires for local transit busses only. This was at the request of Veolia and is expected to result in a savings of \$28,000. This amendment can be changed with a 60 day written notice or immediately if there is a safety concern. The liability will be the contract, Veolia's. While staff had not checked with the California Highway Patrol, the Department of Transportation has no issues with the recapped tires for local transit busses. Staff consulted with Las Vegas and Palm Springs who both use recapped tires and have not had issues. Vice Chair Crist requested Alternative Director Lackey's professional opinion, who share he felt comfortable with the use of the recapped tires, especially since they are not being considered for commuter busses.

- **Internal Procedures.** Staff gave an update on the Capital Reserves stating jurisdiction contributions are temporarily suspended pending further analysis.
- **Closed Session.** There were no reportable actions taken during Closed Session, just consultation with Legal Counsel regarding existing litigation (California Government Code Section 54956.9(a)). Case: Holland, Roemer v. AVTA (Case No. BC470695). Legal Council indicated they are getting close.
- **Executive Director Announcements.**
 - The Executive Director announced she will be out of the office from October 22nd through December 26th, but plans to work on many AVTA projects from home.
 - The AVTA construction on the facilities should be complete in early November.
 - AVTA is seeing the benefits of the solar project. They received approximately \$64,000 in solar rebates so far which exceeded the \$59,000 amount that was budgeted.
 - The TransPorter continues to have high ridership at 653 riders last week.