

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Marvin Crist
Council Member Sandra Johnson

DATE: May 27, 2014

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 April 2014 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. Vice Mayor Marvin Crist serves as the Vice Chair and Council Member Sandra Johnson serves as a Director on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

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

Attendance. All Directors were in attendance.

FY15 Draft Business Plan. Director of Finance Colby Konisek presented the FY15 Draft Business Plan, highlighting the Authority's FY14 accomplishments, FY15 goals, primary assumptions, operating expenditures and revenues, and five-year operating and capital plans. Executive Director Julie Austin indicated that there were more passengers using AVTA's commuter service due to Metrolink restructuring their fares. Ms. Austin suggested that staff research various fare restructuring options in order to fund the expansion of the commuter bus fleet, and possibly the local fleet. The Board discussed overcrowding on AVTA commuter buses and the option of restructuring the fares to offset fleet expansion costs. The Board requested that staff return at the May meeting with various operating plan scenarios that would include a fare restructuring analysis to support ridership increases.

Amendment #5 to Contract #2012-010 with Moore and Associates for Mobility Management Services. The Board approved a contract amendment to Moore and Associate for Mobility Management Services. The \$50,000 increase is funded by an approved Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Grant. The amendment will extend the contract through June 30, 2014 and the additional funds will be used to continue a travel training program and conduct performance audits.

Contract Award – Motor Coach Industries (MCI) for Three Replacement Commuter Coaches. The Board awarded a contract with MCI for a five (5) year term; and authorized the purchase of three replacement coaches through Victor Valley Transit Authority's Consortium Agreement. The three commuter coaches will cost \$633,321 each for a total of \$1,899,963, which will be funded at 80% with 5307 federal funds, and the local match portion will be paid by toll credits. There will be no jurisdictional local match required.

Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) Grant Award Conditions. The AVAQMD awarded AVTA a \$250,000 grant to assist in the implementation of the WAVE inductive charging system to support AVTA's electric bus demonstration project. Given AVAQMD's significant investment in this technology, AVAQMD has requested that as a condition of the grant, AVTA confirm that future electric bus procurements be compatible with WAVE technology. The Board discussed and confirmed that the two electric demonstration buses currently in production will be compatible with WAVE technology.