

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Marvin Crist
Council Member Ken Mann

DATE: April 14, 2015

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 February 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 served as a Director on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

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

Present. Chairman Norm Hickling
Vice Chairman Marvin Crist
Director Steve Hofbauer
Director Sandra Johnson
Director Dianne Knippel
Director Fred Thompson

Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) Mid-Year Business Plan Review and Proposed Adjustments.

Director of Finance Colby Konisek presented the proposed adjustments to the FY15 Business Plan revenues and expenses. The Board inquired of staff when the notice of award is expected for the California Energy Commission grant for three (3) articulated electric buses and discussed how the articulated buses associated with the grant could ease crowding on the Route 1. The Board approved the Fy15 Mid-Year Business Plan adjustments.

Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) Preliminary Business Plan and Short Range Transit Plan Assumptions.

Mr. Konisek presented the preliminary FY16 Business Plan assumptions. The primary business plan initiatives are the electric bus fleet implementation and the bus rapid transit project. The Board also discussed AVTA's partnership with the Wireless Advanced Vehicle Electrification (WAVE) Company to develop the 250kVA chargers, possibilities for using solar energy to charge electric buses, Lancaster Choice Energy, and the possibility of using electric buses as portable generators in the event of an emergency.

Award Contract for Replacement of Commercial Photovoltaic Grid-Tied Inverter.

Procurement Officer Lyle Block presented an item to award a contract in the amount of \$65,000 plus sales tax to New Vision Construction of Valencia, California. The Board discussed the bid amounts; the significant variance in the bid amounts from various bidders, including a local firm; and the bid specifications. The Board approved a motion to reject the bids received and instructed staff to rebid the project insuring all bidders clearly understood the bid specifications.

Change Order for Final Design and Bid Specifications for Electric Bus Charging Stations at AVTA Facilities.

The Board authorized the Director of Operations and Maintenance to execute a change order for an amount of \$149,800 to Arrow Engineering Services, Inc. of Lancaster for final design and bid specifications for the eBus charging stations at AVTA facilities. This change order will allow the final engineering and creation of plans, specifications, and bid documents for Phase 1 of the project, which is the construction of 34 eBus charging stations, a backup generator capable of charging 25 buses, and the installation of the underground utility infrastructure that will support Phase 2 of the project, which includes the installation of 16 additional eBus charging stations.

Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Four to Eight Electric Buses with Wireless Advanced Vehicle Electrification (WAVE) Charging Infrastructure.

The Board approved a motion to issues an RFP for four to eight electric buses compatible with WAVE charging infrastructure. The Board discussed service expansion, funding sources, and potential changes to capital costs.