

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Marvin Crist
Council Member Angela Underwood-Jacobs

DATE: July 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 May 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 Chairman and Council Member Angela Underwood-Jacobs serves as a Director on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

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

Present: Chairman Marvin Crist
Vice Chair Dianne Knippel
Director Angela Underwood-Jacobs
Director Fred Thompson
Director Steve Hofbauer
Director Michelle Flanagan

Final recommendation on proposed service changes for June 29, 2015. Senior Planning Officer Dieter Aragon presented the staff report. Chairman Crist opened the public hearing. There was no public testimony. Chairman Crist closed the public hearing. The Board discussed service around the Antelope Valley Mall, a special express route between the Antelope Valley College campuses in Lancaster and Palmdale, and notifying the public regarding the proposed service changes. The Board approved the final recommendation.

Proposed Fare Structure Recommendations. Public Testimony: Charlotte Baxter presented a petition and letter in opposition of the fare increase. She stated that the increase would be a financial burden to low income riders and those on a fixed-income. Charlene Richardson submitted an email and spoke in opposition of the commuter fare increase. She also inquired about the funding source that AVTA used to cover the financial gap when the Transit Access Pass (TAP) Program's discount ended. Cathy Parrish opposed the increase; however, suggested that AVTA use the additional operating revenue to improve service. Chairman Crist closed the public hearing.

Director of Communications Wendy Williams presented the staff report and clarified how AVTA funded the cost differential once the six-month promotional TAP discount ended. The Board discussed the elimination of the free fare, implementation of the reduced fare for seniors and people with disabilities, and the percentage of grant funding that AVTA receives. This motion was adopted, 4-2-0-0, with Chairman Crist and Director Underwood-Jacobs voting no.

Approval to proceed with Worker's Compensation, Property and Casualty Insurance Policies. The Board authorized the director of operations and maintenance to spend an amount not to exceed \$356,000 under Contract #2013-022 with Vinsa, Inc.

Change order for final design and bid specifications for two wave en-route charging stations. The Board authorized the director of operations and maintenance to execute Change Order No. 1 under Task Order #1 of Master Contract 2014-046 with Arrow Engineering Services, Inc., for a total amount of \$265,080, plus expenses.

Adoption of proposed FY16 Business Plan. Director of Finance Colby Konisek presented the FY16 Business Plan. Chairman Crist directed Mr. Engel to provide an update regarding the procurement and performance data for the electric buses at the June 23, 2015 Board meeting. The Board approved the adoption of the FY Business Plan.