

**STAFF REPORT**  
**City of Lancaster**

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MVB

Date: July 14, 2015

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Barbara Boswell, Finance Director

Subject: **Contribution of Grant Matching Funds to the Antelope Valley Transit Authority for Fare Subsidy**

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**Recommendations:**

- a. Appropriate \$50,000 in Lancaster Proposition A funds to account number 207-4330-301 to the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA) as matching funds for an Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) AB 2766 grant to be awarded to AVTA contingent upon AVTA's receipt of matching funds from the AVTA member agencies and/or Antelope Valley College, for AVTA to provide free fare subsidies for Lancaster senior riders.
- b. Appropriate \$50,000 in Lancaster Proposition A funds to account number 207-4330-301 on behalf of the City of Palmdale to the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA) as matching funds for an Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) AB 2766 grant to be awarded to AVTA contingent upon AVTA's receipt of matching funds from the AVTA member agencies and/or Antelope Valley College, for AVTA to provide free fare subsidies for Palmdale senior riders.

**Background:**

On May 26, 2015, AVTA staff brought an item to the AVTA Board for approval of changes to the authority's fare structure. Included in the staff recommendation was the elimination of the free local transit fare program extended to AVTA customers aged 65 and older. The four Board Members representing Palmdale and Los Angeles County voted to authorize the new fare structure. Chairman Crist and Board Member Underwood-Jacobs, representing Lancaster, dissented based on their non-support of, among other fare structure changes, the elimination of free local transit rides for those aged 65 and older.

At the June 16, 2015 AVAQMD Board meeting, the Board approved a staff recommendation to designate up to \$200,000 in available Mobile Source Emissions Reduction Program funds (AB2766) to AVTA contingent upon the receipt by AVTA of matching funds from the AVTA member agencies and/or Antelope Valley College.

Staff recommends the appropriation of \$50,000 in Lancaster Proposition A funds and an additional \$50,000 in Lancaster Proposition A funds on behalf of the City of Palmdale to AVTA as required matching funds to AVAQMD's Mobile Source Emissions Reduction Program (AB2766) grant for AVTA free fare subsidies for Lancaster and Palmdale seniors.

BB:NR