



**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Ron Smith
Council Member Sherry Marquez

DATE: March 24, 2009

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 March 24, 2009, regular Board of Directors meeting 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 Ron Smith and Council member Sherry Marquez sit on the AVTA Board for the City of Lancaster.

The following items took place during the March Board meeting:

- The Board received draft changes to the Joint Powers of Authority agreement. Some agreement items were moved from the agreement to the bylaws. Including items in the bylaws means the Board can act at times to changes those provisions without processing the proposal through the governing board of each agency, in Lancaster's case, the City Council. The draft language eliminates the Technical Advisory Committee and instead provides that each party may appoint a "transit specialist" instead.
- The Board authorized the Executive Director to proceed with several land acquisitions for future facility expansions. AVTA has federal 5307 formula allocation pre-award authority to spend up to \$1,000,000 for the acquisition of land and property.
- In response to a Board request last month to trim the travel and training budget, staff reduced the FY 2009 budget by \$9,712 by cancelling some remaining trips. Staff reclassified this budget item into appropriate expenditure categories that will better reflect the objectives of the expenditures and to conform to generally accepted government funding reporting guidelines.

All other items approved were routine.