



**MEMORANDUM  
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

**TO:** Mayor Parris and City Council Members

**FROM:** Council Member Sherry Marquez  
Vice Mayor Ron Smith

**DATE:** June 23, 2009

**SUBJECT: Report on the Activities of the Board of Directors for the Antelope Valley Transit Authority**

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**Recommendation:**

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the June 23, 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 significant items took place during the June Board meeting:

- The Board approved the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget. The overall FY10 budget amounts to \$47,341,786. This is an increase of \$17,173,686 over the FY09 budget. This large increase is primarily due to a massive influx of transit capital formula allocation grant funds coming to AVTA in the next fiscal year through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and other grant funds. The City of Lancaster's jurisdictional contribution towards this budget after anticipated fare box recovery, capital grant program funding, and other federal, state, regional and local funding is \$1,488,262. This is the same amount as the FY 08-09 contribution. The \$1,488,262 will be funded utilizing the City's Proposition A transit funds.
- The Board voted to set a public hearing for proposed local transit route changes. Route 11 will be extended to 30<sup>th</sup> Street East on Avenue I to serve Lancaster's new Veterans Center. Four routes now serving downtown Lancaster will be slightly re-routed to accommodate American Heroes Park. A school tripper will be added to serve Eastside High School.
- After a lengthy discussion, with varied opinions amongst the three member jurisdictions, Board Member Marquez moved to extend Veolia Transportation's contract with AVTA for bus operations and maintenance for two months. During those two months, staff will negotiate a longer extension with possible contract amendments.

All other items approved were routine.