

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Ron Smith
Council Member Sherry Marquez

DATE: July 28, 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 July 28, 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 July Board meeting:

- Vice Mayor Smith was sworn in as Chairman of the Board. Los Angeles County Board member Diane Carlton was set to become Vice Chairperson but announced she was resigning from the Board effective immediately. Larry Levin (Los Angeles County) became the Vice Chairman. Ms. Carlton's replacement was not announced.
- The Board voted to extend Veolia Transportation's contract for bus operations and maintenance for twenty-three months. Although not on the agenda, the Board approved the contract extension with AVTA taking over parts procurement and management for six months. After the initial six months, AVTA will conduct a two month evaluation producing a cost benefit analysis to present to the Board in March 2010.
- The Board approved the procurement of eleven transit buses, six support vehicles, three commuter driver shuttle vehicles, and two vehicles for rural zone use totaling \$7,781,000. The vehicles are funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Through this legislation, AVTA received a total allocation of \$10,206,000.

All other items approved were routine.