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March 3, 2026

TDA Article 8 Hearing Board Chair
Juan Miranda, Program Manager
Metropolitan Transit Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Fiscal Year 2025/2026 TDA Article 8 Unmet Needs Hearings

Dear Mr. Miranda:

During last year's TDA Article 8 Unmet Needs public hearings, there were no requests for additional transit service, nor were any comments received related to the transit service operated by the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA)

AVTA is committed to enhancing public transportation and developing essential infrastructure.

Bus Stop and Service Improvements:

In the 12 months since the last TDA Article 8 public hearing, the AVTA has accomplished several key milestones, such as:

- Media boards, including a screen on the building and three medallions, were installed at the South Valley Transit Center.
- Automatic Passenger Counters (APCs) were installed on the commuter fleet, and all units were certified with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
- The City of Lancaster also replaced the graffiti film on the windows of all Owen Memorial Park (OMP) shelters, improving the overall rider experience.
- A thorough quarterly audit of all bus stops on commuter routes was completed to ensure compliance and quality.
- In terms of service and rider engagement, the fare evasion campaign launched in October 2025, followed by the installation of fare evasion signs at transit centers and bus stops near high schools in November. Since this engagement started, AVTA has measured a slight increase in farebox recovery.

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- Planning and scheduling were completed for AV ALTA home games for the 2025 season, ensuring smooth transportation for attendees.
- These initiatives reflect our commitment to enhancing service reliability, safety, and customer satisfaction across the network.

Future Projects:

AVTA continues to evaluate an "off-the-grid" charging solution using a solar farm and battery storage. AVTA is working with the City of Lancaster and the Federal Transit Administration on this solution.

Community Outreach Efforts:

AVTA is currently conducting outreach to communicate proposed service changes scheduled for 2027. Outreach is highly focused on collecting feedback from the Antelope Valley community regarding these changes. AVTA staff members are holding community meetings, attending town councils, attending community events, and conducting transit center pop-up outreach activities, all to communicate the proposed service changes and gather feedback on the proposed route scheduling enhancements. AVTA's goals with these route refinements are to better use service hours, gain route efficiencies, reach new areas of residential growth, and implement improvements based on rider and operator feedback.

AVTA continues to promote the LA Metro GoPass program to high school and community college students in the Antelope Valley. AV Union High School District and Antelope Valley College (AVC) renewed in the 25/26 GoPass year, providing bus passes to all students enrolled in AV Union High School District or at AVC. The Palmdale School District enrolled their one high school, Palmdale Academy Charter School, in the GoPass Program in the 25/26 Year. AVTA still encourages middle schools in the Antelope Valley to consider the GoPass program for their students. AVTA had 1,690 total students registered in the 24/25 GoPass Year, with 45,647 AVTA system boardings.

AVTA is dedicated to serving the community and to providing excellent customer service. Community outreach is a high-priority goal, and we continually seek to improve our efforts:

- To maintain a close relationship with our riders and potential riders, AVTA actively participates in all in-person community events hosted by the cities of Lancaster and Palmdale. These events allow us to connect with our riders and the AV community to address potential transportation needs. Additionally, AVTA conducts community outreach to rural Los Angeles County communities within our service area to reach transit-dependent populations and raise awareness of AVTA's available services.

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- Our community outreach and travel training programs continue to educate and connect our residents, especially veterans, seniors, those with disabilities, and students, to our transportation system.
- To better reach our student-age residents and their families, AVTA engages with the high school and community college-age students in the Antelope Valley in an ongoing effort to raise awareness of AVTA's services, AVTA's and LA Metro's GoPass Program, as well as LA Metro's LIFE program (a low-income fare assistance program).
- AVTA continues to reach out to the local business community and its customers regarding transportation needs. AVTA actively engages with representatives from senior centers, veterans' organizations, rural communities, transportation vendors, adult disabled groups, and other rider groups. This ongoing communication helps AVTA to identify unmet needs, understand the strengths and weaknesses of our transportation services, and enhance our offerings for all passengers.
- AVTA continues to promote our Non-Emergency Medical Transport program to the health care service providers in the Antelope Valley. We also provide transportation assistance to health fairs for low-income and/or homeless individuals to connect them with the vital services offered there.
- Each year, AVTA, the cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, and other community partners provide meal boxes, frozen turkeys, toys, and gifts to needy families in the AV. In December 2025, the AVTA Grocery and Toy Giveaway event distributed 2,800 Butterball turkeys (courtesy of the Cities of Lancaster/Palmdale), in partnership with the Teamster Union Local 848, 2,100 food boxes with holiday meal supplies, more than 400 bicycles (courtesy of A.V. Boosters), more than \$50,000 in toys (courtesy of the AVTA Stuff-a-Bus toy sponsors and community donations), and hundreds of boys' and girls' winter coats to the needy families that attended our event.

AVTA values the input of our customers and stakeholders and continues to take a proactive approach to address the transit needs in the Antelope Valley. If you have any questions, please contact me on (661) 729-2206.

Sincerely,


Martin J. Tompkins
Executive Director/CEO



City of
**SANTA CLARITA
TRANSIT**

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Santa Clarita Valley Area
TDA Article 8 Hearing

Over the past 12 months the City of Santa Clarita (City) has continued its efforts to promote public transportation and build the vital infrastructure needed to support public transit now and in the future. In that time, the City has also worked closely with our transportation partner the County of Los Angeles, to improve bus service in the unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley despite the fact that there were no requests for additional transit service within the Santa Clarita valley, nor comments received related to the transit service operated by Santa Clarita Transit during the 2025 Article 8 hearings.

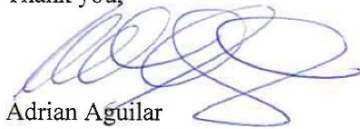
In addition to the fixed route service improvements, the City also expanded the level of service on its on-demand service. As a result of these efforts, ridership aboard the City's local fixed-route, on demand, and dial-a-ride services continue to increase.

While it is not practical to list all of the accomplishments and milestones the City has achieved since the last hearing, I would like to highlight a few. Since March 2025, the City has:

- Improved fixed route service to the Five Point development north of Interstate 5.
- Awarded a contract for the purchase of three zero-emission fuel cell electric buses. This brings the total number of fuel cell buses on order to ten. The first of which are scheduled to be delivered this spring.
- Begun construction of a hydrogen electrolyzer and fueling station at the City Transit Maintenance Facility.
- Placed an order for five zero emission electric Transit vehicles to support the on-demand *Go! Santa Clarita* service.
- Took delivery of six CNG powered dial-a-ride buses.
- Installed new amenities including shelters, benches, lighting, and trash receptacles at 26 bus stops within the Santa Clarita Valley.
- Implemented a new dispatching and scheduling system that allows riders to schedule and track their dial-a-ride, Access, and *Go! Santa Clarita* trips from a single platform.

In the coming year, the City and Santa Clarita Transit will continue to evaluate local, state, and federal funding opportunities for transit services as it develops a strategy for the continued implementation of the recommendations outlined in the City Transit Development Plan. Additionally, the City will work closely with our transportation partners as we strive towards our goal of providing effective and efficient service that improves the quality of life for all residents within the Santa Clarita Valley.

Thank you,



Adrian Aguilar
Transit Manager