

Public Hearing August 24 at 7:00pm

To accommodate the work schedules of our commuter passengers, the Public Hearing which will address the proposed commuter fare increase will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2005 at 7:00pm in the board room at AVTA, 42210 6th Street West in Lancaster.

AVTA has not adjusted fares for the commuter service since July, 2001 and must do so now as gasoline prices, operation expenses, and wage increases continue to add to the cost of providing service.

AVTA's commuter service is a subsidized enterprise funded through a variety of local, state, and federal sources, however farebox recovery is a critical source of operating revenue.

Staff has proposed that fares increase every six months, by \$20, until the final fares are achieved.

Route 785 -
from \$171 to \$210, a \$39 increase (would take 1 year at a max of \$20 every 6 months)

Route 786 -
from \$187 to \$255, a \$68 increase (would take 2 years)

Route 787 -
from \$149 to \$206, a \$57 increase (would take 1.5 years)

Reduced fare passes will continue to be one half the cost of any pass.

In addition, the increased annual costs of providing the service will be calculated during the budget process, based upon the prior twelve months, for the following fiscal year. Fares would then be adjusted automatically upon budget adoption, for implementation in September. These increases will be in addition to those shown above.

If you plan to attend the Public Hearing on August 24, please be advised that each person wishing to address the Board will have only 3 minutes to speak. If several people of the same opinion attend together, it is best if you have one person represent your group.

You are welcome to attend this meeting, however, your written comments will be entered into public record just the same as if you physically attend the meeting.

You may submit written comments by fax: 661-726-2615, by email: pholland@avta.com, or by mail: AVTA, Attention Pam Holland, 42210 6th Street West, Lancaster CA 93534.

Date of Increase	Route	Increase	Fare Upon Increase	EZ Pass
Sep. 2005	785	\$20	\$191	\$208
	786	\$20	\$207	\$228
	787	\$20	\$169	\$193
	10-Trip	\$7	\$67	
	one way	\$0	\$10	
Mar. 2006	785	\$19	\$210	TBD
	786	\$20	\$227	TBD
	787	\$20	\$189	TBD
	10-Trip	\$8	\$75	
	one way	\$0	\$10	
Sep. 2006	785	\$0	\$210	TBD
	786	\$20	\$247	TBD
	787	\$17	\$206	TBD
	10-Trip	\$8	\$83	
	one way	\$0	\$10	
Mar. 2007	785	\$0	\$210	TBD
	786	\$8	\$255	TBD
	787	\$0	\$206	TBD
	10-Trip	\$9	\$92	
	one-way	\$2	\$12	

Passes now available as early as the 15th of the month

We are happy to announce that commuter passes may now be purchased at the kiosks as early as the 15th of each month (starting in September), for use the following month.

Monday through Friday:

Lancaster 4pm to 7pm
Palmdale 6am to 9am

Saturday:

Lancaster 8am to 12pm
Palmdale 1pm to 5pm

For commuter convenience: on the last business day and the first two business days of each month the **Lancaster** kiosk is open from 3:30am to 8pm and the **Palmdale** kiosk is open from 4am to 8pm

Save \$\$ by ordering passes online

The next time you order your pass online you will notice a new look and added conveniences. AVTA has contracted with VisaNet to automatically process your credit card purchase. This system will allow us to process your pass more efficiently. It also allows us to add American Express as another credit card option and the convenience of check by phone service.

When you buy online your pass is mailed to your home and you can avoid waiting in line at the kiosk. The new system will let you purchase multiple passes with one transaction, and don't forget... you save money when you buy online!

RECYCLE those old cell phones!

In California alone, more than 40,000 cell phones are thrown away each day! In keeping with our commitment to help protect the environment, AVTA is proud to partner with the A.V. Illegal Dumping Task Force to help collect and recycle old cell phones.



Phones collected through this program are donated to law enforcement or shelters to provide emergency communications, or they are recycled.

AVTA is a collection point for your old deactivated cell phones ~ just leave the phone with your driver.

COMMENT TO BE ENTERED INTO PUBLIC RECORD

Name: _____

Route: _____ Run: _____

A.M. Start Point (please circle one) LCP PTC



I will be unable to attend the August 24 Public Hearing regarding commuter fare increases but would like to have my comment entered into public record:

FAX YOUR COMMENTS to Pam Holland, Customer Service Manager, at 661-726-2615 or leave this form with your driver. You may also email your comments to pholland@avta.com

