

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AVTA Teamsters to Vote on Contract Extension

Lancaster, CA. – After several weeks of uncertainty, Veolia Transportation and the Teamsters Local 848 have reached agreement on a short term tentative agreement for a six month contract affecting bus drivers for AVTA. Veolia employees will vote on the proposal on August 20, 2011. If the proposal is accepted, employees will have a contract effective through December 31, 2011. We expect full bus service to continue without delays or interruption.

“While it is unfortunate that the community has had to be put through this period of uncertainty, we are pleased to see Veolia and the Teamsters working through their differences,” stated Norm Hickling, AVTA Chair. “At this time we anticipate all AVTA services will continue to run as scheduled for the foreseeable future.”

The news of a likely resolution comes just in time for area students who depend on AVTA for their school transportation. Antelope Valley schools open on Monday, August 8, and a work stoppage would have significantly affected the ability of many students to get to school in a timely manner. As it stands, all AVTA buses will be operating their normal schedules as the school year gets underway.

The AVTA website (avta.com) and customer hotline (945-9445) will continue to be updated with the latest information until the labor issues are resolved. “We appreciate the patience of our valued customers, who have been put through a stressful situation across the past three weeks,” added Austin.

Antelope Valley Transit Authority provides public transportation services to the Antelope Valley.

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