



Antelope Valley Transit Authority

Press Release

Wendy Williams
Public Information Officer
Antelope Valley Transit Authority
661.729.2239 | wwilliams@avta.com

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LANCASTER – Officials of the Antelope Valley Transit Authority met today with Rep. Howard P. “Buck” McKeon to discuss transportation issues affecting the Antelope Valley. Three members of AVTA’s Board of Directors and the Executive Director briefed the valley’s congressman on the transit system’s current state of affairs.

Topping the agenda was discussion of current legislation that would allow small transit systems, like AVTA, greater flexibility in the use of their federal funds. During the meeting, McKeon agreed to co-sponsor “The Transit System Flexibility Act of 2011”. “We are extremely pleased that our congressman is willing to be supportive of this vital legislation,” stated AVTA Executive Director Julie Austin. “The legislation is in dire need of co-sponsorship by a California Representative and it is gratifying to know we are strongly supported.”

AVTA officials also discussed current efforts to add clean diesel electric hybrid buses to the local transit fleet, a move that will save the transit system thousands in fuel costs. The new contract with American Logistics Company to provide Dial-a-Ride service was also on the agenda allowing transportation officials to brief the congressman on AVTA efforts to utilize federal tax dollars in the most efficient manner possible.

“Whenever you can sit down and speak directly with federal decision makers it’s invaluable,” stated Chairman of the Board Norm Hickling. “I think we made some strides today and look forward to future legislative efforts that will have a positive impact on our transit system and the service provided to our community.”

McKeon was also given a tour of AVTA’s state of the art facilities including phase II of a facilities construction project that is currently underway.

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