

MTA Board Meeting
November 13, 2014

MOTION BY DIRECTOR ANTONOVICH
Lancaster Station MOU

The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink) operates and maintains security on the Metrolink Antelope Valley Line. The Lancaster Station on the Metrolink Antelope Valley Line is an important link in the system, serving over 400 riders a day. In addition to being the terminus of the line, the station also serves as an overnight maintenance and staging area for the system.

The City of Lancaster has expressed a desire to close the station, due to their perception that the Station has become an attractor of homeless people traveling from other locations in Los Angeles County due to the close proximity of many homelessness resource agencies to the station.

In late October, staff from Metro, Metrolink and my office met with the Lancaster Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and their staff to discuss alternatives to closing the station. Resulting from this meeting was a request that Metrolink enact a zero tolerance policy on fare evasion for the Antelope Valley Line, and that Metro and Metrolink install additional fencing, lighting, cameras, and appropriate technology at the station to secure the use of the station by paying Metrolink customers only. Funding for these improvements will come from prior Board-approved sources.

With the agreement among all parties to work together to improve the safety and security at the station and on the entire Antelope Valley Line, the City of Lancaster has agreed to cancel its CEQA scoping meeting and suspend other formal actions leading to the closure of the station, pending progress on these items.

A Memorandum of Understanding among the aforementioned parties will be necessary in order to memorialize the agreement and move this compromise forward.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Board directs the CEO to negotiate and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Metro with the City of Lancaster and the Southern California Regional Rail Authority that maintains the Lancaster Station as part of the Metrolink system.