



Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force (AVIDTF)

Meeting Summary of June 10, 2015

Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA) Boardroom
 42210 6th Street West
 Lancaster, CA 93534

Attendees:

Christine Borzaga, Supervisor Antonovich's Office
 David Brackin, Department of Weights/Measures
 Doug Burgis, Quartz Hill Resident
 Dave Campbell, District Attorney's Office
 Andrew Cronin, County of Los Angeles Sheriff Department
 Bob Curry, Resident
 Scott Glaysher, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
 Lisa Hemenway, Waste Management Inc.
 Tom Lapworth, AV Board of Trade
 Larry Levin, Juniper Hills Resident
 Eve T. Lopez, Department of Public Works
 Josh Mann, Waste Management Inc.
 Chris Mastro, Department of Public Health
 Leo Moreno, Palmdale High School
 Karyl Newman, Hinterculture
 David Pang, Department of Public Works
 Doug Parham, Resident
 Debbie Pepe, Department of Parks & Recreation
 Christina Ramos, AV Press
 Guy Randles, Green Valley Town Council
 Kerstin Schlegel, Department of Regional Planning
 Scott Short, County of Los Angeles Sheriff Department
 Ryan Todd, Channel 3

<u>Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
Letter to the Board regarding Franchising Trash Services in Antelope Valley	Bob Curry will draft a copy of the letter for the AVIDTF to review
Mattress/Box Spring Recycling Flyer	Feedback and comments to be incorporated onto flyer

Self-Introductions

- Self-introductions of all attendees.

Checking Account – Doug Burgis

- Doug Burgis provided the balance in the checking account. The current balance is \$68,197.86.

Adopt-A-Highway Honoree, LDS Church, Leona Valley Ward – Dough Burgis

- Dough Burgis presented the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor's Scroll to Scott Glaysher, representative for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Leona Valley Ward, in recognition for their participation in the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

Illegal Dumping Report – Eve T. Lopez

- Eve Lopez provided statistics for Illegal Dumping Activity report.

Illegal Dumping Subcommittee Report – Eve T. Lopez

- Eve Lopez also provided summary of the AVIDTF Subcommittee meeting. The following items were discussed:
 - Subcommittee received an illegal dumping case to assist a property owner. The subcommittee voted to provide 2 roll-off bins and vouchers to the resident for their effort to clean-up illegal dumping on their property.
 - Mattress/Box Spring Recycling Event on September 12, 2015.
 - Draft flyer was presented for feedback and comments by Subcommittee.
 - A \$5 gift card from either Target, Starbucks, or Walmart will be given to each household for every mattress or box spring recycled up to a maximum of 6 pieces (\$30 gift card maximum).
 - There was a discussion on a campaign/marketing strategy to advertise the Mattress/Box Spring Recycling Event.
 - There was a discussion on the Volunteers' duties at the Mattress/Box Spring Recycling Event.

Falcon Tech – Leo Moreno from Palmdale High School

- Leo Moreno, teacher of Palmdale High School along with students, Jacqueline Cortez and Jordan Taylor, presented a project for the AVIDTF in preventing illegal dumping in the Antelope Valley. The project focuses on children from Kindergarten thru 5th grade providing them with an education on the issues of illegal dumping.
 - Children are susceptible in various activities around their environment and can easily influence on what their environment presents.

- The project will help children understand why illegal dumping prevention is important.
 - The project is in an ebook or digital interactive book with the title “Have You Seen My Pool?” The story is about a small plastic pool owned by a child named, Sammy. When the small plastic pool became old, it was dumped to a remote area by Sammy’s dad. A dog was later found trapped by the plastic pool and other debris in the area. Sammy heard the cry of the dog, and when he went to the location where the dog was, he discovers his small plastic pool. The story depicts how illegal dumping can cause harm to the environment.
- Christine Borzaga presented \$1200 grant to Leo Moreno for Palmdale High School. Fund will help pay for the students participation in Skills USA.

DEHSART Update – Karyl Newman

- DEHSART project uses an artist’s perspective on the issues of illegal dumping in the Antelope Valley and other high desert region since 2013. Their goal is to build an instagram audience to tag photos of trash and incorporate it into a map to show location of the debris. One example was a boat on Highway 18 towards Victorville. The boat was tagged and documented in March of this year, and now the boat has been removed. Other outreach activities include Girl Scout Troop events. Dehsart taught children how to make reusable bags out of an old T-shirt to use to pick up trash, implement community collection boxes, and pick-up trash in the communities.

Waste Management Inc. – Lisa Hemenway

- Lisa Hemenway provided a brief background of the services provided by Waste Management, Inc. to the unincorporated areas of the Antelope Valley. Lisa also addressed several questions posed by resident Doug Parham. Doug Parham claims that expense and time spent at the landfill causes illegal dumping. There was no correlation to prove that was true.

Open Discussion/Public Comment

- Doug Parham posed several questions to Lisa Hemenway. He asked who funds the Disposal Day events, who own the landfills in Palmdale and Lancaster. WM funds the Dump Day events and corporate office Texas owns Waste Management.
- Doug Parham asked how much is the dump charges at both Palmdale and Lancaster landfills. Lancaster Landfill charges \$59.04 and Palmdale charges \$55.50 per load. The rates may vary on an annual basis.
- Doug Parham inquired Waste Management’s record on the average waiting time for disposal at the landfill. There are no records available on keeping average time of the waiting period to the landfill to dump. Palmdale/Lancaster landfill

facilities reports are generated by volume of the debris and the company's quarterly report is proprietary information and not available to the public.

- Doug Parham stated he experienced a significant wait time to dump at the Palmdale landfill from the queue all the way to the kiosk. People have waited 1 ½ hour and still has about half a mile to go through to finish up. Due to the wait time problem along with the minimum charges of \$55 to \$60 to dump, he wants to know if there is a correlation on the illegal dumping activities in Antelope Valley with the long wait time to dump at the landfills. There was no correlation to the wait time at the landfill to dispose and the illegal dumping.
- Doug Parham asked for any assistance for the low-income residents of Antelope Valley in waiving dump fees. Waste Management Inc. has no low-income waiver; however, there are several services that provide free disposal at the landfills. Waste Management Inc. provides Free Disposal Days events twice a year, bulky item pick up, and curbside recycling.
- Lisa Hemenway stated that residents need to remember that the people are generating waste and Waste Management Inc. has no control over illegal dumping activities to avoid paying dump fees at the landfills.
- Bob Curry suggested to move from private responsibility of waste management to government collecting fees through taxes to manage waste in the Antelope Valley.
- Doug Parham addressed his concern for the 3-hours wait time to dump with a minimum of \$60 charge is contributing to illegal dumping in the Antelope Valley. Doug Parham stated that for those who are on a schedule, they would not want to wait to dispose their waste at the landfill, rather they would dump it in the desert.
- David Pang informed the task force that waste management through franchising by assessing cost through water or tax bills would require a voting process which may take up to 2-years.
- Bob Curry suggested it is time to make a change toward local government taking over in franchising the waste management in Antelope Valley. He has volunteered to initiate to write a letter to the Board of Supervisor and will submit the letter on September 9, 2015 meeting for the AVIDTF to review.

Next Meeting: September 9, 2015