



**MEMORANDUM Transportation & Development Department – Memo No. TN15-17**

**DATE:** JUNE 25, 2015

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**THRU:** MARSHA REED, ACTING CITY MANAGER *MR*  
 NACHIE MARQUEZ, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER *NM*  
 R.J. ZEDER, TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR *RJ*  
 DANIEL W. COOK, CITY ENGINEER *DC*

**FROM:** ANN MARIE RILEY, TRANSIT SERVICES COORDINATOR *AMR*

**SUBJECT:** ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR VALLEY METRO RAIL, INC.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends authorization of payment of the Fiscal Year 2015/16 annual membership fee for Valley Metro Rail, Inc., (METRO), in the amount of \$50,000.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: In 2007, the City of Chandler joined METRO. This enables the City to participate in the planning and design of the regional light rail system and future light rail extensions that could serve Chandler.

Regional, high capacity transportation systems, such as light rail, require years of advance planning and coordination with participating communities as well as regional, state, and federal agencies. In 2003, the City of Chandler completed a High Capacity Transit Investment Study which designated Rural Road, Chandler Boulevard, and Arizona Avenue/Union Pacific Railroad Chandler Branch Line as corridors for future development of high capacity transit systems, including light rail.

In December 2012, the City completed the Arizona Avenue High Capacity Transit Long Range Study. This study was completed by METRO’s consultants in conjunction with City and METRO staff and was entirely funded with the City’s annual membership fees. This study provided a planning assessment of potential light rail ridership on a future light rail line on Arizona Avenue. The study also presented recommendations for future bus service and for land use planning policies that will create a successful future light rail corridor.

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Additionally, in October 2014, the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing the “Fiesta-Downtown Chandler Transit Corridor Study” Agreement between the City of Chandler, City of Mesa, and Valley Metro Rail, Inc., providing for a High Capacity Transit Corridor Study along Arizona Avenue in Chandler. The study began in March 2015, and is expected to take 24 months to complete.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Cost: \$50,000  
Savings: N/A  
Long Term Costs: \$50,000 annual membership fee

Fund Source:

<u>Acct. No.:</u>	<u>Fund Name:</u>	<u>Program Name:</u>	<u>Funds:</u>
216.3340.5810.0000	Fund Balance	Subscriptions & Membership	\$50,000

PROPOSED MOTION: Move City Council authorize payment of the Fiscal Year 2015/16 annual membership fee for Valley Metro Rail, Inc., (METRO), in the amount of \$50,000.

Attachment: Invoice

