



# Behind the Scenes

## Executive Director's Report

The Access Services Board of Directors met on August 4, 2025.

- > The Board elected its officers for FY 2026 which are Chair Doran Barnes, Vice Chair Theresa de Vera, Treasurer Adrian Aguilar and Secretary Giovanna Gogreve.
- > The Board approved the purchase of up to 260 ADA paratransit vehicles at a cost of \$37.1 million dollars.
- > The Board also approved a five-year turnkey fleet camera recording and telematics contract for 1,090 Access-owned and contractor-dedicated service vehicles at a cost of \$4.2 million dollars.

The next full meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for September 22, 2025.

**Andre Colaiace**  
**Executive Director**

## 18th Annual ISAC Meeting



Bill Tsuei (Access' Director of IT) and I recently had the opportunity to attend the 2025 ISAC Annual Meeting, held this year in Scottsdale, Arizona. The meeting brought together cybersecurity professionals and government representatives from across the United States, all of whom are part of the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC). As a trusted community

dedicated to safeguarding the cybersecurity of state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments, MS-ISAC continues to provide an invaluable ecosystem of tailored services, resources, and collaborative opportunities.

This year's theme - Strength, Resilience, Community - resonated deeply throughout the event. It highlighted the power of unified efforts in strengthening cyber defenses and fostering collective resilience in the face of rising cyber threats. Despite the recent shift to a paid membership model resulting from changes in federal funding, MS-ISAC remains committed to delivering cost-effective and mission-critical cybersecurity services, ensuring that every member organization has access to essential tools and benefits.

The conference featured a range of customized sessions and expert panels focused on emerging challenges and solutions. Key topics included building AI governance frameworks; best practices for conducting cyber tabletop exercises; actionable threat briefings; and recovery strategies following cyberattacks. Attendees also explored approaches to securing cloud environments and strengthening their organizational security posture.

In addition to the informative sessions, the vendor expo featured industry leaders such as Microsoft, Google, and Deloitte, presenting cutting-edge technologies and services tailored to

the evolving needs of the public sector. These engagements provided attendees with the opportunity to explore emerging trends and practical solutions that could be applied in their organizations.

The event underscored the importance of ongoing collaboration and peer networking within the SLTT community. Access is grateful to MS-ISAC for their leadership, and for continuing to provide the resources that help protect our public institutions against sophisticated and ever-changing cyber threats.

**Ruben Prieto**  
*Cybersecurity Specialist*

## Voices of the Antelope Valley: A Journey of Listening, Learning, and Lifting Communities

I recently attended an event hosted by Supervisor Kathryn Barger, titled "Voices of the Antelope Valley: A Journey of Listening, Learning, and Lifting Communities," at the John P. Eliopoulos Hellenic Center in Lancaster. The day focused on networking, empowerment, and community building.

After registration and breakfast, D'Artagnan Scorza, Ph.D., the Executive Director of Racial Equity, welcomed us and highlighted the unique challenges and potential of the Antelope Valley. He emphasized the importance of raising awareness and inspiring investment in a more equitable future.

The event featured a fireside chat with Supervisor Barger and Joseph Nicchitta, Los Angeles County's Chief Deputy CEO/COO, who discussed their commitment to creating thriving communities. Participants were encouraged to engage, ask questions, and connect.

Following this, a panel moderated by Kim Watson from Project Joy included leaders from various nonprofits addressing issues like poverty, domestic violence, and mental health awareness.

Later in the day, I visited Foundation Christian Ministries, a church in Palmdale, and Grace Resources, a food distribution center in Lancaster, which serve their communities daily. I returned for lunch and networking, leaving the event with a deeper understanding of the Antelope Valley's future needs.

**Stephen Wrenn**  
*Mobility Management Administrator*



## Commendations

### Antelope Valley

"My driver Jose was such a great, friendly person. I feel like I have known him forever, and we connected like old friends. He had me laughing the whole time and had a great attitude. Access should have more drivers like him or even have him train the other drivers."

*Hazel Stover*

*Rider since June 2016*

### Eastern Region

"I want to file a smile for Ruth in the Eastern STO dept. Ruth is so helpful and patient. Ruth has helped me make all the necessary adjustments to my STO, and I would like to thank Ruth for her excellent customer service."

*Jessica Christine Sears*

*Rider since June 2010*