



Date: 4/23/2026
To: City Commission
From: Kalla Langston-Weiss, City Clerk
Subject: Recommendation to Approve Extension of Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Niles (DART Services)

Background:

The City of Buchanan currently contracts with the City of Niles for public transportation services through the Niles Dial-A-Ride (DART) system. The existing Intergovernmental Agreement is set to expire on December 31, 2026. The City of Niles has formally requested renewal of this agreement, noting continued strong ridership and expanded service benefits to Buchanan residents, including regional connectivity and increased usage trends.

Proposed Action:

The proposed extension would continue transit services through December 31, 2030, maintaining the current service structure and funding mechanism, which utilizes the City's dedicated transportation millage.

Considerations:

- The service provides essential transportation options for residents, including access to employment, medical services, and regional transit connections.
- Ridership trends indicate ongoing and increasing utilization of the service.
- The agreement structure places operational responsibility on Niles DART, minimizing administrative burden on the City of Buchanan.
- Continued funding is dependent on the voter-approved transportation millage.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Commission approve the extension of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Niles for DART services through December 31, 2030, contingent upon the successful passage of the transportation millage ballot proposal.