

**SUBMITTED BY:** Humberto Rivera, Transit Manager  
**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** Xenia Gonzalez, Neighborhood & Grants Director  
**FOCUS AREA:** Other / NA  
**ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS:** EnterTextHere

**SUBJECT:** **RESOLUTION NO. 24-1588**, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **AUTHORIZING** the **SUBMISSION** of a **TWO-YEAR GRANT APPLICATION** to the **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** encompassing the October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2026, time frame for **Section 5311 RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS** to continue to provide **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES** via the **DOUGLAS RIDES PROGRAM**.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The city is now in its twelfth year of managing the transit program. The Transit 5311 grant application is due to ADOT February 21, 2024, for the next two federal year’s funding, which will begin October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2026. Staff is amid budget preparation for the new grant application for a two-year funding cycle, which will include capital needs as well as administrative, operating and possibly planning funds to continue the program.

**BACKGROUND:**

The transit program has shown to be successful with 49,778 rides provided last year and provides a much-needed service to the community. Ridership numbers are steadily starting to grow at about 15% and continue to fulfill a Bisbee connection, which includes stops at Cochise College. The Cochise Connection route has also increased ridership and provided another source of transportation to our residents and the region.

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff recommends approval for the City of Douglas to apply for a 2-year funding grant for the Douglas Transit department to fund administrative, operations, possibly planning and capital needs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

ADOT reimburses 80% of administrative costs, 58% of operating costs, 80% of planning funds and 90% of capital costs. Local match funding is being met with partnerships from Cochise College, Freeport McMoran, SEAGO, the Legacy Foundation for the Cochise Connection, Business advertising and the contractual service provided to the City of Bisbee. Staff will continue to seek grants, partnerships and other methods to meet the local match funding to minimize the impact to the General Fund.

**Fiscal Year:** 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 **Amount Requested:** \$ **Budgeted:** Y / N

**Account (s):**

**“...I move that the Mayor and Council approve Resolution No. 24-1588.”**