

RESOLUTION NO. R-25-47

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH GEST MISSOURI HOLDINGS, LLC, TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO GLADSTONE RESIDENTS AS OUTLINED IN THE AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, the City Council of Gladstone, Missouri, has determined that executing an Agreement with GEST Missouri Holdings, LLC for public transportation services beginning September 1, 2025, will be beneficial to Gladstone residents; and

WHEREAS, the cost of public transit services to be provided by GEST Missouri Holdings, LLC to the City of Gladstone, Missouri, will be \$12,500 for the first month and then \$10,000 for each subsequent month of the Agreement.

WHEREAS, the transit services provided will require a shared cost to the primary rider of \$3.00 and will include door to door transportation to any location in Gladstone, a partner city, the nearest bus stop, or any health care facility within the boundaries outlined within the northern region of the greater Missouri metropolitan area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a contract with GEST Missouri Holdings, LLC for public transit services in accordance to the terms described above and further outlined within the Agreement.

FURTHER, THAT, expenditure of such funds is hereby authorized from the Transportation Sales Tax Fund.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI, THIS 11TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025.



Mayor Les Smith

ATTEST:



Kris Keller, City Clerk



Request for Council Action

RES ☒ # R-25-47

BILL ☐ # City Clerk Only

ORD ☐ # City Clerk Only

Date: 8/1/2025

Department: General Administration

Meeting Date Requested: 8/11/2025

Public Hearing: Yes ☐ Date: Click here to enter a date.

Subject: A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with GEST Missouri Holdings, LLC to provide public transportation services as outlined in the Agreement.

Background: The City has elected to terminate its contract with the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) and associated IRIS program due to escalating costs and instability in the program's funding structure between the City of Kansas City, MO, and the KCATA. These challenges have made it increasingly difficult to maintain consistent and reliable service for residents. In response, City staff have initiated discussions with GEST Holdings, LLC, as a potential alternative provider to ensure continued mobility support for our community. Staff have held productive conversations with representatives from GEST Holdings, LLC, who have expressed a commitment to delivering a comparable service with improved features. Based on input from the City Council and a detailed analysis of monthly ridership data supplied by KCATA, the service model has been revised to better align with current usage patterns and resident needs. Key adjustments include a refined service area and modified hours of operation to enhance efficiency and coverage. The proposed service through GEST will include a shared cost structure of \$3 per ride for the primary passenger. Eligible trips will include transportation within the City of Gladstone or a participating partner city (to be determined as enrollment expands), to the nearest bus stop, or to any healthcare facility located within the designated confines of the northern portion of the greater Missouri metropolitan region. Unlike the previous IRIS model, which offered pickup and drop-off within a ¼ mile radius, the GEST service will offer true door-to-door service, significantly improving accessibility and convenience for riders. GEST Holdings, LLC has committed to using new vehicles and will facilitate dispatching via a user-friendly mobile app or phone call. Drivers will be directly employed by GEST, ensuring consistency, thorough vetting, and accountability. For paratransit needs, GEST will subcontract services initially, with the option to expand to dedicated vehicles if demand increases. Given the urgency of securing a replacement provider and GEST's willingness to honor the City's current pricing structure with IRIS, staff recommends that the City Council authorize a pilot program agreement with GEST Holdings, LLC. The City's purchasing policy permits deviation from competitive bidding under unique circumstances, and this transition meets those criteria due to the immediate service need and favorable terms offered by GEST.

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Budget Discussion: Funds are budgeted in the amount of \$ 125,000 from the TST Fund. Ongoing costs are estimated to be \$120,000 annually. Previous years' funding was \$120,000.

Public/Board/Staff Input: Staff recommends approval of the proposed Resolution.

Provide Original Contracts, Leases, Agreements, etc. to: City Clerk and Vendor.

Bob Baer
Department Director/Administrator

JA
City Attorney

BB
City Manager