

Saline County Area Transit  
P.O. Box 412  
Western, NE 68464  
Phone/Fax: (402) 433-4511

Oct 7, 2024

Crete City Council and City Clerk,

Attached is a copy of the Budget Summary for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. Also attached is a funding chart that shows each town's share of the local matching funds. Note that although the Summary reflects a two-year budget as is now required by Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT), the funding chart is only allocating local match for one year (half of the total local match on line 14). This is the same as was approved last year for the biennial budget. The Crete county wide share is \$9703 and the city service share is \$19,487 for a total of \$29,190. Please use the funding chart as the invoice for your town.

It has been a very busy year as transportation demand in our service area experienced a strong surge. For the 2023 fiscal year 16,577 trips were provided (42% increase) and 117,466 miles were driven. At three quarters into fiscal year 2024, SCAT is on schedule to provide over 18,000 boardings (approximately a 12% increase) and have already logged 90,000 miles - on schedule for about 115,000. This has placed much stress on our aging fleet and NDOT is having many supply chain and contractual commitment issues. Vehicles that were anticipated for delivery over two years ago are still not being delivered. With only one vehicle under 100,000 miles and the rest ranging up to 235,000 miles, our maintenance expenses have been climbing. For a short term remedy a 2012 15-passenger van has been purchased directly by SCAT and the oldest (2006) in the fleet was sold.

Finances are tight due to NDOT running seven months behind schedule in grant funding. At this time, SCAT has only been reimbursed through February, 2024. SCAT is operating solely on local match, fund raising and memorial gifts at this time.

Any new ideas for fund raising opportunities are welcome and should be forwarded to SCAT board members or myself at the Western office.

SCAT strongly encourages communities to make known any transportation needs that are going unmet. We are interested in seeking out opportunities to fulfill your transit needs.

Scott Bartels  
Saline County Area Transit Director