

**NEWS RELEASE**

City of Douglas  
Damian Dorame  
Assistant to the City Manager  
damian.dorame@douglasaz.gov  
(520)417-7303  
November 10, 2021

## **Passage of Congress Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Funds Douglas Two-Port Solution**

**Douglas, Ariz. (November 10, 2021)** – On Friday, November 5, 2021 House of Representatives voted to pass the Senate approved \$1.2 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIF), which is set to be signed by President Biden. BIF contains \$3.85 billion for land ports of entry of which \$184 million is to renovate the existing Douglas Raul H. Castro Port of Entry and \$216 million for the construction of a new commercial port of entry 4.5 miles west of Douglas on James Ranch Road.

"It is exciting to finally receive funding for our two-port solution for Douglas!" stated Mayor Donald C. Huish. "I couldn't be happier for our City to receive this kind of investment that will be a catalyst for more jobs and opportunity for this area."

The General Services Administration (GSA), a division of the federal government, will receive the funds dedicated for the Douglas ports and have already initiated processes to move forward with construction of the new port.

Huish went on to say, "I would like to thank all of our partners, without whom this would not have been possible. They all saw the value that Douglas and the border have, not just in this area but for the entire state of Arizona and the entire country!"

In 2019, GSA completed a port feasibility study that determined the need for a second port of entry in Douglas and has also conducted a downtown revitalization study in anticipation of the new port. In addition, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) began the process to perform a feasibility study for the construction of the connector road from the border to Highway 80 on what is currently identified as James Ranch Road. In partnership with the city, Cochise County performed a water and sewer master plan of the area to plan for the development of a new port along with other growth. The City of Douglas has also pledged the donation of up to 80 acres of land to the federal government for the construction of the new commercial port.

The new commercial port will allow trade to take place between Mexico and the U.S. in a more efficient manner and will be a draw for companies to work on both sides of the border. It is expected that the new port will be constructed in collaboration with Mexico within a 4-5-year period.