



**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Tim J. Gatz, Executive Director**

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June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: BUILD Grant Application  
US-281/Route 66 Bridgeport Bridge in Caddo and Canadian Counties

Dear Secretary Chao,

On behalf of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, I am writing in support of the application for a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Investment (BUILD) Discretionary Grant for the reconstruction of the US-281/Route 66 Bridgeport Bridge (William H. Murray Bridge) in Caddo and Canadian Counties.

The proposed improvements to this Bridge are both necessary and urgent to provide for motorist safety, better facilitate traffic, and improve freight movement. The project also upholds a significant cultural attraction along historic US Route 66. In order to meet the strategic goals of both the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the region, the proposed improvements are critically necessary.

This project is not currently in our FFY-2019 through FFY-2026 Construction Work Plan (CWP). Upon grant award, ODOT would add this project into the CWP and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and all funding would be allocated as necessary.

As the current Director of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, I appreciate your support of projects in Oklahoma that lead to further investment in our communities, and projects that will create and retain jobs, improve the quality of life in our state, and preserve the culture and tradition of US Route 66, "Mother Road" a vital resource to the State and Nation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim J. Gatz', written in a cursive style.

Tim J. Gatz  
Executive Director

*"The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is to provide a safe, economical, and effective transportation network for the people, commerce and communities of Oklahoma."*

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER