

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Bridge Investment Program (BIP) for SH-100 over the Arkansas River

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of The Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to voice our organization's strong support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Grant to assist with the SH-100 over the Arkansas River Project.

The existing SH-100 bridge over the Arkansas River was built in 1969 and is too narrow to accommodate future improvements on SH-100. It is also considered at-risk of becoming structurally deficient. The existing roadway consists of two 11 ft. wide driving lanes with 3 ft. shoulders. The replacement SH-100 bridge over the Arkansas River will be designed for future SH-100 widening.

The proposed improvements include replacing the SH-100 bridge with a new bridge on the existing alignment. The new bridge would be increased from 28 ft. wide to 40 ft. wide, consisting of two 12 ft. wide driving lanes with 8 ft. wide shoulders. Modern 42-inch-tall railings will be incorporated into the design to increase safety for all bridge users.

The Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the SH-100 over the Arkansas River Project for its vital contribution to the region, state and nation. We strongly urge your support of full funding for the project. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Angela Wilson
President & CEO
The Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce