

November 27, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

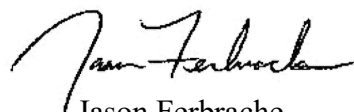
We are pleased to write this letter in support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This project would improve the connection of I-35 and I-240, ensuring that this critical corridor will continue to serve the state and nation's interstate system.

The I-35 & I-240 Interchange is crucial to the function of Oklahoma City and the nation. Interstate 35 in Oklahoma City is a critical intercontinental freight corridor linking the country from north to south while also intersecting two other major east-west freight corridors, I-40 and I-44. I-240 serves as the southern loop of Oklahoma City connecting people to healthcare, education, and employment, as well as, major transportation generators such as Will Rogers World Airport and Tinker Air Force Base. The interchange in Oklahoma City sees over 13,000 trucks per day and ODOT has identified the I-35 corridor as a freight bottleneck at this location.

Reconstruction of the I-35/I-240 Crossroads will create a multi-level interchange with dedicated interstate ramps and improve city street access with added ramps, turnaround lanes and service roads. Completion of this project will assist in the safety, accessibility, and travel time for network users.

Thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT's application for the Bridge Investment Program. Please contact our offices if you need any further assistance as you consider this important proposal.

Sincerely,



Jason Ferbrache  
Director  
EMBARK

