

MUSKOGEE CITY-COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

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October 31, 2024

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

RE: Bridge Investment Program for the I-40 Arkansas River Bridge Replacement in Muskogee County, Oklahoma

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) to replace the I-40 bridge over the Arkansas River on the Muskogee and Sequoyah County line in eastern Oklahoma.

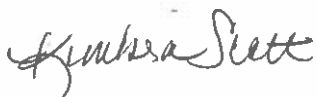
The I-40 bridge is a fracture-critical structure with a high volume of truck traffic, 30% of the average 21,000 daily vehicles. This has led to substantial wear and a reduced lifespan, with the bridge's existing fracture damage necessitating a complete replacement rather than repair.

Replacing this bridge will strengthen the national Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS), a critical component of our U.S. freight transportation network, by ensuring a safe, resilient connection that supports efficient freight movement and contributes to our nation's economic success.

ODOT has been a steadfast partner of Port Muskogee, advancing essential infrastructure and freight initiatives that support regional growth. This project will continue to build on that partnership, creating robust connections for regional and national commerce.

Thank you for your consideration of ODOT's BIP application. Please feel free to reach out if you need further information.

Sincerely,



Kimbra Scott
Executive Director