



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

MARKWAYNE MULLIN
2ND DISTRICT, OKLAHOMA

May 18, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Rural Surface Transportation Grant (RURAL) under the Multimodal Project Discretionary opportunity.

In 2019, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that 45 percent of traffic fatalities occurred in rural areas where only 19 percent of the population live. Additionally, the fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 1.9 times higher in rural areas than urban.

If awarded, these funds will provide safety improvements such as widened shoulders, repairs to at-risk bridge infrastructure, and the addition of rumble strips designed to reduce the number of fatalities in heavy freight-traveled rural areas. The funds will also be used towards bicycle lanes and sidewalks to increase access to goods, job opportunities, and improve the overall quality of life for the multimodal, rural highway users.

I fully support local projects here in Oklahoma that invest in needed infrastructure for rural Oklahomans. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our McAlester office at (918) 423-5951. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Markwayne Mullin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress