



October 10, 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: Reconnecting Communities Pilot for the I-244 Study: A Plan to Enhance Mobility and Connectivity in North Tulsa

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

INCOG as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Tulsa Transportation Management Area is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) and City of Tulsa's joint application for a Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) discretionary planning grant for the Enhancing Community Connectivity in Tulsa – I-244 Planning Study.

The Interstate-244(US-412) highway is an important part of the metropolitan Tulsa Expressway system. A key portion of this roadway is the northern section of the Inner Dispersal Loop around Downtown Tulsa. This heavily utilized section of Interstate Highway helps provide access to and through downtown Tulsa, however its design represents a visible physical barrier to north Tulsa and the historic Greenwood district. Local partners have worked on studies to improve adjacent neighborhoods, local mobility, quality of life and equity, but have not had an opportunity to fully study options with respect to I-244.

With Reconnecting Communities grant funding, ODOT and the City of Tulsa will engage these communities to identify the effects of I-244 and provide viable options for removing existing barriers while promoting the important culture of North Tulsa.

We thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT's and the City of Tulsa's joint application for this RCP planning grant. Thank you and please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Brierre". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Rich Brierre,  
Executive Director