

June 24, 2026



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Mr. Sean Duffy,
Transportation Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Cherokee Nation – Letter of Support for Oklahoma Department of Transportation Bridge Investment Program Application – SH-100 Bridge over the Arkansas River

Dear Secretary Duffy,

As Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, I am writing to express support for Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP) for the SH-100 Bridge over the Arkansas River in Muskogee and Sequoyah Counties, Oklahoma.

Cherokee Nation is the largest federally recognized tribe with more than 477,000 tribal citizens. As a sovereign government, Cherokee Nation is committed to protecting our inherent sovereignty, preserving and promoting Cherokee culture, language, and values, and improving the quality of life for future generations of Cherokee Nation citizens. This opportunity aligns with our commitment to improving the quality of life for the next seven generations by supporting safe, reliable infrastructure that strengthens access to employment, education, healthcare, commerce, and other essential services.

The SH-100 bridge serves as an important connection for residents, businesses, and visitors traveling throughout eastern Oklahoma. In addition to supporting daily transportation needs, the bridge facilitates regional economic activity and serves as a critical transportation route across the Arkansas River. The proposed project will modernize this aging infrastructure, improve safety for the traveling public, and help ensure the corridor can continue to meet current and future transportation demands.

Cherokee Nation recognizes the importance of investing in infrastructure that supports economic development, public safety, emergency response capabilities, and long-term community growth. Improvements to the SH-100 bridge will help strengthen transportation reliability and connectivity for the many communities that rely on this corridor.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Robin Allen, Director of Grant Services, at grants@cherokee.org.

Respectfully,

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation