TULSA PORTS
BARGE · RAIL · INDUSTRIAL PARK
CATOOSA · INOLA

June 19, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

On behalf of Tulsa Ports, I am writing to express our support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Grant, SH-100 Bridge over the Arkansas River in Muskogee and Sequoyah Counties.

The existing SH-100 bridge over the Arkansas River was built in 1969 and is too narrow to accommodate future improvements on SH-100. It is also considered at-risk of becoming structurally deficient. The existing roadway consists of two 11 ft. wide driving lanes with 3 ft. shoulders. The new bridge would be increased from 28 ft. wide to 40 ft. wide, consisting of two 12 ft. wide driving lanes with 8 ft. wide shoulders. Modern 42-inch-tall railings will be incorporated into the design to increase safety for all bridge users.

This SH-100 bridge is a significant crossing, facilitating the movement of goods and people over the Arkansas River. **For the Tulsa Port of Catoosa, an inland port in eastern Oklahoma which employs about 4,000 people, we typically ship about 2 million tons of freight by barge which moves right under this bridge. The total waterborne tonnage shipped to and from all of Oklahoma's ports typically exceeds 5 million tons!** The SH-100 bridge contributes to regional economic activity and is heavily relied upon. As a navigation system bridge, its reliability is critical to Tulsa Ports. The bridge also fulfills the role of critical relief route for I-40 and will play an important part in the proposed reconstruction of the Interstate 40 bridge six miles to the south.

Thank you for your consideration of ODOT's application for this BIP grant. Please feel free to call me should you have any questions or if you require additional information about Tulsa Ports and our reliance on this and other critical bridges over the navigation system.

Sincerely,

David Yarbrough, PE
Executive Director