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February 20, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
US Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) funding for the Tulsa County I-44 & US-75 Interchange

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) is in full support of Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) INFRA grant application. The proposed improvements to I-44 & US-75 interchange are both necessary and urgent to provide for motorist safety and to meet strategic goals of both ODOT and OTA.

ODOT's proposed project will ultimately improve the connection between the new Gilcrease Expressway toll road and I-44/Tulsa. This improvement will increase safety and improve capacity that will better facilitate traffic, improve freight movement and improve access to Tulsa County.

OTA believes this proposed project supports a network that is critical to Oklahoma's economy, the nation, and the national defense highway system. We strongly urge your support of full funding for the project. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Echelle".

Joe Echelle PE MBA
Assistant Executive Director,
Maintenance, Engineering & Construction

copy: Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation, Tim J. Gatz