



John Gorton, *President and CEO*
302 W. Chickasha Avenue / Chickasha OK 73018
(405) 224-2200 • Fax (405) 574-3776 • www.bankfnbt.com
jgorton@bankfnbt.com

February 25, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) funding for the US-81 bypass in Grady County

Honorable Secretary Chao:

Greetings from The First National Bank & Trust Co. in Chickasha, OK. I'm writing as the oldest bank and business enterprise in Grady County. We are in support of grant funding by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to assist with the US-81 bypass project.

US-81 is a crucial conduit for the economy of our state. In addition to commuters and traffic from farming / ranching, Grady County has seen a tremendous influx in rural energy projects including oilfield development and wind farming. The existing route for US-81 brings large trucks, heavy machinery, and other large freight through downtown Chickasha. The heavy and continual flow of this industrial traffic is detrimental to our city streets and the safety of motorists and pedestrians. This project would facilitate a safer and more efficient transportation channel.

I recognize that this project will add a valuable piece of much needed transportation infrastructure that is vital to economic growth for Grady County and the State of Oklahoma.

The First National Bank & Trust Co. strongly supports the US-81 bypass project. We are advocating for your support in full funding for this necessary development. Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to accept your call should you have questions or want more information regarding the US-81 bypass project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Gorton", is written over the word "Respectfully".

John Gorton
President & CEO