

September 8, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am pleased to support the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for Bridge Investment Program (BIP) grant funding to rehabilitate the State Highway 100 (SH-100) bridge that provide critical access over the Arkansas River. Funding from this grant will guarantee safe commutes for thousands of Oklahomans and will further expand economic activity 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 considered at-risk of becoming structurally deficient. The existing roadway consists of two 11 ft. wide driving lanes with 3 ft. shoulders. The proposed improvements include replacing the SH-100 bridge with a new bridge on the existing alignment. The new bridge will be increased from 28 ft. wide to 40 ft. wide, consisting of two 12 ft. wide driving lanes with 8 ft. wide shoulders. New 42-inch-tall railings will be incorporated into the design. This BIP project will improve both bridge condition and increase safety for all bridge users.

Investing in the bridges today will allow the area to avoid costly detours should the bridges further deteriorate and require closing. This project will support critical mobility, safety, and good repair goals for the state of Oklahoma. I appreciate your consideration of the ODOT' application for BIP grant funding Please contact Alexandra Slocum (202-224-4721 or Alexandra_Slocum@inhofe.senate.gov) on my staff if you have any questions related to this project.

Sincerely,



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator