



CLINTON

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 24, 2024



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are pleased to write this letter in support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This project includes the replacement of four bridges that are at risk of becoming structurally deficient as a component of the larger project to modify the existing interchanges on I-40 at Gary Boulevard and Neptune Drive in Clinton, Oklahoma.

The current interchange configuration lacks direct access from southbound Gary Boulevard to eastbound I-40. The spacing of the interchanges and unconventional geometrics at both intersections of I-40 and exit 65 creates congestion, safety, and connectivity issues through the area. Addressing the functionally obsolete bridges is imperative to provide the vertical clearance needed to meet design standards, as well as, provide intersection and interchange spacing.

This project will replace four at risk and functionally obsolete bridges to improve the safety and operation of the interchanges. This project will have a positive impact on the City of Clinton that currently experiences adverse congestion issues. These crucial connections will provide easier access to the surrounding facilities including Clinton High School, Southwest Elementary School, Acme Brick Park, McLain Rogers Park, residential neighborhoods, and commercial/retail properties.

Thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT's application for the Bridge Investment Program. Please contact our offices if you need any further assistance as you consider this important proposal.

Sincerely,

Julie Caldwell, IOM

President