

Thursday, May 19,2022

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

RE: Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant funding for Grady County US-81 Realignment Project

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG), an eight county regional economic planning organization in southwest Oklahoma. I am writing to voice our organization's strong support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for a Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) to assist with the Grady County US-81 Realignment project. The proposed improvements to US-81in Grady County are both necessary and urgent to provide for motorist safety, better facilitate traffic and improve freight movement and to meet the strategic goals of both ODOT and the region.

The association of South Central Oklahoma Governments strongly supports the Grady County US-81 Realignment project for its vital contribution to the region, state, and nation. The proposed project supports a network that is critical to Oklahoma's economy and freight movement. 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,

Tom S. Zigler

ASCOG CED Director 802 W. Main Street

Duncan, Oklahoma