



May 3, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Arkansas Oklahoma Port Operator's Association, I am writing to voice our organization's staunch support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant to assist with the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) Mooring Modernization Project. The proposed improvements to mooring structures at critical locations on the MKARNS waterway are both necessary and urgent to provide overall safety within the MKARNS network and improve reliability of freight movement to meet the strategic goals of both ODOT and the region.

The Arkansas Oklahoma Port Operator's Association, strongly supports the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) Mooring Modernization 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 full funding for the project.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Day', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Bryan Day, President
Arkansas Oklahoma Port Operator's Association