

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

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

RE: Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) funding for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) Mooring Modernization Project

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Little_Rock Harbor Service, Inc, I am writing to voice our organization's strong support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) 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 an increase in overall safety within the MKARNS network, provides economic benefit and support of future development, and improves the reliability of freight movement to meet the strategic goals of both ODOT and the region.

Little Rock Harbor Service, Inc. 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 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

Mike Metzler

Little Rock Harbor Service, Inc.