



**THE CITY OF  
OKLAHOMA CITY**

**Mayor David Holt**

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July 29, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
U.S. Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Bridging The Gap: Multimodal Connections On I-35 Over the Oklahoma River

Dear Secretary Duffy:

As Mayor of Oklahoma City, I am pleased to express my full support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) application for the FY26 Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This project will replace and expand the I-35 bridges over the Oklahoma River, enhancing a vital corridor that serves the local community and strengthens both the state and national interstate systems.

Interstate 35 in Oklahoma City intersects two other major east-west freight corridors, I-40 and I-44, positioning the I-35 bridges at a critical junction for intercontinental movement, linking the coasts to major urban areas throughout the country.

The project proposes to replace the two existing I-35 bridges, including a ramp bridge connection and adding a lane of capacity in each direction. Located on the Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS) and within the top 5% of freight bottlenecks in the state, this project will reduce freight congestion and enhance national economic productivity.

Importantly, this proposed project also integrates the addition of a previously-awarded pedestrian bridge, providing multimodal access across the river. The City of Oklahoma City will collaborate and contribute financially to the pedestrian bridge. Completion of this project will improve safety and connectivity for bikers and pedestrians.

Perhaps the most unique aspect of this I-35 bridge replacement project is the tremendous community impact the bridge replacement will offer our community. Since these bridges were built over three decades ago, the Oklahoma River has been dammed and now serves as host to elite international paddlesports events. The venue adjacent to the bridges will serve as the site of six canoe slalom events in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, underscoring the importance of modernizing the infrastructure in this area.

I wholeheartedly support ODOT's application for the FY26 Bridge Investment Program. Please contact our offices if you need any further assistance as you consider this crucial proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Holt".

David Holt  
Mayor