



Friday, July 18, 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,

As the “voice of trucking” in Oklahoma, we represent the unified interest of our member companies that literally have a front row seat to the needs of infrastructure across our state. We are pleased to voice our organization’s strong support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation’s (ODOT) application for Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This project would improve the connection of I-35, ensuring that this critical corridor will continue to serve the state and nation’s interstate system.

I-35 in Oklahoma City intersects two other major east-west freight corridors, I-40 and I-44, making the I-35 bridges in Oklahoma City critically located at the crossroads of intercontinental movement, linking the west and east coasts to major urban areas throughout the country.

The project proposes to replace the two existing I-35 bridges over Water, including a ramp bridge connection, and the addition of a previously awarded pedestrian bridge to provide multimodal access across the river. ODOT has secured commitments from the City of Oklahoma City to contribute to the pedestrian, bike, and scooter bridge. Completion of this project would provide safety for freight and pedestrians, increase capacity for future generations, and allow for continued contributions to the national economy.

The Oklahoma Trucking Association strongly supports this project for its vital contribution to the region, state and nation. Thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT’s essential project for BIP award. Please contact our offices if you need any further assistance as you consider this important proposal.

Sincerely,

Jim Newport
CEO/President
Oklahoma Trucking Association

Jim Newport
President & CEO

Bobby Smith
Chairman

Carmalieta Wells
First Vice Chairman

Mario Archaga
Past Chairman

