



KINGFISHER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jeff Moss, District 1
Mike Sparks, District 2
Anthony Schwarz District 3

Phone: (405) 375-3808
Fax: (405) 375-2366

Kingfisher County Courthouse
101 S. Main, Room #9
Kingfisher, OK 73750

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

March 4, 2025

RE: Competitive Highway Bridge Program

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) grant application to the Competitive Highway Bridge Program. This project will replace three structurally deficient (SD) bridges and one bridge at-risk of becoming SD located near Dover, Oklahoma. Two bridges are located on US-81 and the other two are located on public county roads in Kingfisher County, OK. This project invests in the safety and efficiency of our transportation infrastructure, is critical to our community, and aligns with the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) goals.

The bridges in question, constructed in 1960's, have surpassed their useful life and currently have decks classified in Serious and Poor condition. The deteriorating state of these bridges poses a significant threat to the safety of all users, including local residents, commercial vehicles, truck traffic, and emergency response units. Addressing this issue is not only a matter of public safety but also of maintaining the reliability of our transportation network.

The proposed project is in line with the FHWA's goals. Replacing the two deficient bridges will minimize public agency costs needed to keep them in service over their lifecycle while maintaining the bridges in Good and Fair condition. Safety is at the forefront of this project; replacing these outdated bridges will reduce the risk of accidents and structural failures, ensuring safe passage for all road users. This aligns with FHWA's commitment to enhancing the safety of our nation's highways. These bridges are vital conduits for local and regional traffic. Their replacement will enhance the efficiency of goods movement, reduce travel delays due to closures, and support economic activities, ultimately contributing to sustained economic growth in the area.

In summary, replacing these bridges is not just a local necessity but also a strategic investment in our transportation network's safety, efficiency, and sustainability. I wholeheartedly support ODOT's grant application and urge the FHWA to consider funding their application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anthony R. Schwarz

3-10-25