



association of central oklahoma governments

Chair Jay Adams
Mustang Mayor

Vice-Chair Matt Dukes
Midwest City Mayor

Secretary/Treasurer Lynne Miller
Norman Mayor

Executive Director
John G. Johnson

September 21, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Re: Oklahoma Department of Transportation INFRA Grant Application

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) is pleased to support the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation INFRA grant program. The proposed project will provide critical and necessary regional transportation improvements in the Central Oklahoma region, including improved access to Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma's largest employer and key economic driver for the region.

ODOT's project application includes widening I-40 from four to six through lanes in a five and one-half mile stretch adjacent to Tinker AFB and a reconstructed I-40/Douglas Boulevard interchange to improve transportation safety and traffic and freight access near the base. The interchange and I-40 corridor improvements will add much needed capacity that will improve traffic flow, freight movement, and access to Tinker AFB and other nearby traffic generators. The widening project will also improve safety by correcting substandard vertical clearances and update infrastructure throughout the corridor.

Much of ACOG's work is focused on developing a regional, multi-modal transportation vision that supports economic growth, enhances livability, and improves the efficiency and safety of the Central Oklahoma transportation network today and into the future, and this important regional project meets all of those objectives. We are hopeful that ODOT's application will be awarded funding to allow these needed and significant transportation improvements to occur in the region.

If we can provide any additional information for this effort, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

John G. Johnson
Executive Director