

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

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

RE: Bridge Investment Program for I-35 over SH-74 in Purcell

Dear Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

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. Having polled our members, the Oklahoma Trucking Association, believes this project meets the desired goals state for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for a Bridge Investment Program discretionary grant to assist with the I-35 over SH-74 in Purcell. The adding a full interchange is both necessary and urgent to provide safety and resilience. This project will allow access to I-35 in both directions in the center of Purcell. Currently there is no access to I-35 between mile marker 91 and 95 delaying emergency response time.

I-35 over SH-74 in Purcell project for its vital contribution to the needed infrastructure improvements in a developing community. The proposed project is crucial to safely satisfy all the necessary requirements of the region. We strongly urge your support of full funding for the project. Please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Newport CEO/President Oklahoma Trucking Association



