



August 22, 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

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Southwest Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SORTPO) I am writing to voice our organization's strong support of 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.

SORTPO strongly supports the 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,

Julie Sanders

Julie Sanders
Director of Transportation
Southwest Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization
420 Sooner Dr.
Burns Flat, OK 73624
580-562-5010
julie@swoda.org