



Wednesday, September 7, 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 the US-69 Bridge Replacement in Durant

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the South-Central Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization, 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 US-69 Bridge Replacement in Durant. The rehabilitation of the US-69 is both necessary and urgent to provide safety and resilience. This project will replace four bridges over Arkansas Street, the Kiamichi Railroad, and Main Street. One of the bridges is structurally deficient and the other three are expected to become structurally deficient over the next few years.

The South-Central Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization strongly supports the US-69 Bridge Replacement in Durant for its vital contribution to the needed infrastructure improvements in a developing community. The proposed project is crucial for creating a bridge that will safely satisfy all the necessary requirements of the region. We strongly urge your support of full funding for the project. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Kyle Henry

Regional Transportation Planner

South Central Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization

2704 N. First Ave.

Durant, OK 74702-0709