

November 21, 2023

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

RE: Letter of Support for the Crossroads of America: Replacing Bridges on I-35/I-240 in Oklahoma City

Dear Mr. Secretary:

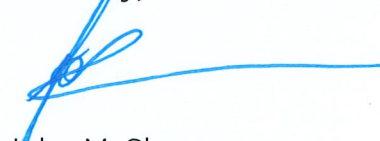
This letter is to express the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) support for the Crossroads of America: Replacing Bridges on I-35/I-240 in Oklahoma City application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This project would improve the connection of I-35 and I-240, ensuring that these critical corridors will continue to serve the state and nation's interstate system.

The I-35 & I-240 Interchange is crucial to the function of Oklahoma City and the nation. Interstate 35 in Oklahoma City is a strategic intercontinental freight corridor linking the country from north to south while also intersecting two other major east-west freight corridors, I-40 and I-44. I-240 serves as the southern loop of Oklahoma City connecting people to healthcare, education, and employment. I-240 connects two major transportation generators - Will Rogers World Airport and Tinker Air Force Base. The two bridges over I-35 carry over 5,000 trucks per day and ODOT has identified the corridor as a freight bottleneck.

Reconstruction of the I-35/I-240 Crossroads will create a multi-level interchange with dedicated interstate ramps and improve city street access with added ramps, turnaround lanes and service roads. Completion of this project will assist in the safety, accessibility, and travel time for network users.

Thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT's application for the Bridge Investment Program.

Sincerely,



John M. Sharp
Deputy Director

Attachment