

G.T. Bynum OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 4, 2021

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

RE: Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) funding for the I-44 Corridor Project

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the City of Tulsa, I am writing to strongly support the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for an Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant to assist with the Interstate 44 Corridor project. The proposed project completes the remaining phases utilizing multiple sources of funding by the State. The targeted federal grant funding will support regional, state, and national goals of safety, freight movement and improve air quality. The project provides for equitable resources for the west Tulsa section of I-44 while supporting adjacent low-moderate income populations with access to opportunities.

These significant corridor improvements are both necessary and timely to complete the project on this significant stretch of interstate on the National Freight Network that is a bottleneck within the region and the State for all travel. Further, the project abuts the existing Turkey Mountain Wilderness and its planned expansion, that adds quality of life to all Tulsans and Oklahomans as a statewide destination.

The I-44 Corridor Project is a vital link through the City of Tulsa that connects our city to the region, state and nation. The proposed project supports a network that is critical to Oklahoma's economy and freight movement. 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.

Best regards.

G.T. Bynum Mayor City of Tulsa