



420 Sooner Drive, Burns Flat, OK 73624 – 580-562-5010

Tuesday, March 9, 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 Grady County US-81 Realignment Project

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 an Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant to assist with the Grady County US-81 Realignment project. The proposed improvements to US-81 in Grady County are both necessary and urgent to provide for motorist safety, better facilitate traffic and improve freight movement and to meet the strategic goals of both ODOT and the region.

The 2040 Grady County Long Range Transportation Plan identifies the US 81 Realignment as a project. This project will enhance truck freight connectivity to the region, state and nation and will enhance and create greater efficiency of road freight movement, reducing congestion and increasing safety.

SORTPO strongly supports the Grady County US-81 Realignment project and recognizes the significance of this rural project impact to the expansion and improvement of freight movement, enhancing safety and economic benefits arising from such improvement. 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,

Julie Sanders

Julie Sanders
Director of Transportation, SORTPO