

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 23, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am pleased to submit this letter in support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT's) application for the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) to complete critically needed improvements in preparation for the future interstate designation of US-412.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) recognized US-412 as a high priority corridor to be designated as a future Interstate on the National Highway System between I-35 in Noble County and I-49 in Springdale Arkansas. Connecting north-central Oklahoma with Northwest Arkansas will connect three key interstate freight corridors (I-35, I-44, and I-49), will directly serve major inland ports (Tulsa Ports and Oakley's Port 33), will improve access to Tulsa International Airport, and will improve supply chain connectivity for major retail and industrial employers along the corridor. IIJA designated 189 miles of US-412 as a future interstate, most of which is in Oklahoma, and the existing facility will need to be upgraded to control access by adding interchanges.

This project will focus on crucial improvements to the section of corridor between I-44 in Tulsa and the Cherokee Turnpike just east of the Grand River in Mayes County. This project will add interchanges and overpasses to control access that will drastically improve safety along this section of highway by eliminating at-grade intersections with local roads. This project promotes resiliency, state of good repair, and economic development by investing in infrastructure that serves a vital role in connecting interstate freight movement.

I thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT's application for this MPDG grant. Please contact Victor Sarmiento, on my staff, at [victor\\_sarmiento@inhofe.senate.gov](mailto:victor_sarmiento@inhofe.senate.gov) if you need any further assistance as you consider this important project.

Sincerely,



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James M. Inhofe  
United States Senator