## MUSKOGEE CITY-COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

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A EARNEST GILDER, Chairman KIMBRA SCOTT, Port Director

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May 3, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

## Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Muskogee City-County Port Authority (Port Authority), I am writing to voice the Port Authority's support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant to assist with the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) Mooring Modernization Project. The proposed improvements to mooring structures at critical locations on the MKARNS waterway are both necessary and urgent to provide overall safety within the MKARNS network and improve reliability of freight movement to meet the strategic goals of both ODOT and the region.

The Port Authority strongly supports the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) Mooring Modernization Project for its vital contribution 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 full funding for the project.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Kimbra Scott Port Director