



Wednesday, April 6, 2022

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

RE: RAISE Grant funding for Connecting Neighborhoods in West Tulsa: W. 51st Street Extension Project in Tulsa County

Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Indian Nations Council of Governments, the MPO for Tulsa Metropolitan Region, I am writing to voice our organization's support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to assist with Reconnecting Neighborhoods in West Tulsa: W. 51st Street Extension Project in Tulsa County.

This project will reconnect the low-income Carbondale neighborhood previously bisected when the existing interchange was constructed years ago. The addition of sidewalks along West 51<sup>st</sup> Street and a pedestrian bridge over an active rail line will eliminate an identified sidewalk gap and facilitate opportunities for residents of an underserved neighborhood to more easily connect with businesses and neighborhoods west of the interchange and to access the extensive Tulsa metropolitan trails system and the nearby Turkey Mountain Urban Wilderness. INCOG urges your support of full funding for the project as it is an integral part of the long-range planning goals for the region, and we will provide support necessary for inclusion of the project into the regional Transportation Improvement Program.

Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Brierre".

Rich Brierre  
Executive Director