NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

1 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001



Dennis J. Newman Executive Vice President, Strategy, Planning and Accessibility

March 9, 2022

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

Re: USDOT's FY22 RAISE Grant Application - SH-37 BNSF Railroad Crossing Project (OK)

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), I am writing to express our support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application submitted under the US Department of Transportation's (USDOT) FY22 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for the *SH-37 BNSF Railroad Crossing Project*. Amtrak's State-Supported *Heartland Flyer* service will benefit from the safety improvement.

The project scope consists of safety improvements to a railroad crossing in the City of Moore, including a grade separation of the BNSF Railway (BNSF) railroad tracks at State Highway-37 (SH-37). Improvements include the construction of a new two-track railroad bridge with room for a future third track over SH-37. The existing SH-37 roadway will be reconstructed as a four-lane curb and gutter section, and retaining walls will be constructed north and south of SH-37. A raised median between eastbound and westbound lanes will also be added to the grade-separated roadway as well as 10-foot multimodal shared-use concrete paths on both sides. A pedestrian bridge will be built over the roadway, providing a new north-south pedestrian connection that will tie into the trail network of the adjacent Central Park and the soon-to-be-constructed Old Town Park.

The advancement of an operational safety infrastructure project like this will contribute to the economic competitiveness of the region.

Sincerely,

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Dennis J. Newman Executive Vice President, Strategy, Planning and Accessibility

cc: Jared Schwennesen, P.E., ODOT, Rail Program Division Manager, jschwennesen@odot.org