United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg Secretary 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) application for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant to reconstruct the at-grade crossing of Oklahoma State Highway 37 and the intersecting BNSF Railroad to a grade-separated intersection.

This project will address multiple focus areas of the grant's primary selection criteria, such as the addition of a 10-foot multi-modal path along SH-37 and a pedestrian bridge addition to connect the City of Moore Central Park with the north side of SH-37. This area often experiences lengthy delays and congestion when this crossing is blocked and this project will mitigate these problems while ensuring the swift passage of emergency vehicles through the area. The reduction of traffic and rail congestion in this area is important to the economic growth of the City of Moore and the surrounding communities.

This section of the Oklahoma rail network supports critical Oklahoma energy, agricultural, and commodities industries. Maintenance and improvement on the Oklahoma rail system are a boon to the regional economy and provides the stable environment necessary for railroads and businesses to expand their footprint in the state of Oklahoma.

I thank you in advance for your strong consideration of ODOT's application for this RAISE grant. Please contact Victor Sarmiento, on my staff, at victor_sarmiento@inhofe.senate.gov if you need any further assistance as you consider this important project.

Sincerely,

United States Senator