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October 10th, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Tulsa Community Foundation (TCF), I want to offer my strongest support to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's decision to pursue the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) discretionary grant funding.

Organized in 1998, TCF is one of the largest community foundations in the United States with over fifteen hundred donor advised funds and nearly four billion dollars in assets. Our mission is simple: to benefit the Tulsa Metropolitan Area and Eastern Oklahoma in charitable causes. We see in our work and in our day-to-day lives the profound effect of segregation and inequality in our city, exacerbated to this day by the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. As a result, we are committed to policies and practices to combat those inequities. In fact, TCF has had a hand in incubating, creating and/or supporting many Greenwood-based organizations that will be key stakeholders in the Reconnecting Communities planning process and are already doing great work to re-build the once thriving district like Greenwood Rising, Terrence Crutcher Foundation, John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation, among others.

If the USDOT is looking for a flagship city in which to showcase the power of reconnecting communities fractured by highways and institutional policies, it must thoroughly consider Tulsa. If awarded the planning grant, the leadership, staff and board of TCF will do everything it can to convene all the interested parties and support the planning process that is so vital to the success of this effort.

Sincerely,
Tulsa Community Foundation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Stava", with a stylized flourish.

Jeff Stava
Chief Operating Officer