

October 12, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao U.S. Secretary of Transportation U. S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave SE Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) funding for the US-81 bypass in Grady County

Honorable Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the Chickasha Economic Development Council, I am writing to voice our organization's strong support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for an Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant to assist with the US-81 bypass in Grady County. The proposed improvements to US-81 are both necessary and urgent to provide for motorist safety, better facilitate traffic and improve freight movement and to meet the strategic goals of both ODOT and the region.

The Chickasha Economic Development Council (EDC) conducts economic and community development for the City of Chickasha, and as a board we support the bypass.

The Chickasha EDC strongly supports the US-81 bypass 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 support of full funding for the project. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to call on us should you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Christy Elkins, CEO

Chickasha Economic Development Council