Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3602

July 28, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy U.S. Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: I-40 and SH-100 Bridge Replacements over the Arkansas River at Webbers Falls Project

Dear Secretary Duffy:

We are pleased to submit this letter in support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) application for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Grant, *I-40 and SH-100 Bridge Replacements over the Arkansas River at Webbers Falls Project* in Muskogee and Sequoyah Counties. The bridges on I-40 and SH-100 are vital structures that are currently fracture-critical and functionally obsolete. They also risk becoming structurally deficient, which would impose significant travel time costs due to freight traffic detours if load posting becomes necessary. Their replacement represents a strategic investment in the regional and national freight networks, preventing significant economic impact to both interstate and marine highway systems if disrupted.

Replacing these aging, fracture-critical bridges directly aligns with the Program's goals for high-impact projects. New infrastructure will ensure the Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS) and MKARNS waterway network remain in good repair, significantly improving safety and mobility through increased shoulder width and railing height. These operational enhancements will increase economic competitiveness by expanding connectivity between local and national markets.

I formally request that the application submitted by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation receive fair and full consideration by the US Department of Transportation. The potential transportation and safety benefits stemming from this project align with the objectives of the BIP Grant and will significantly impact travel times in my district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Josh Brecheen Member of Congress