

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

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

Dear Secretary Duffy:

On behalf of the City of Muskogee, I am writing in strong support of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's 2026 BUILD Grant application for Centennial Pathways: Enhancing Community Connectivity on US-69.

US-69 is one of the most heavily traveled corridors in our community and serves as a critical north-south freight route for eastern Oklahoma. While it plays an essential role in regional commerce, it also divides neighborhoods and limits safe connectivity for our residents. The proposed reconstruction of this 2.6 mile segment will improve roadway conditions, enhance freight mobility, and create safer, more accessible pedestrian infrastructure along the corridor.

The replacement of the existing pedestrian bridge and the addition of sidewalks and crosswalks are particularly important for Muskogee. These improvements will reconnect residents on both sides of US-69, increase safety for non-motorized travelers, and reduce the risks currently associated with crossing or traveling along the corridor. For our community, this project is not simply about resurfacing pavement; it is about restoring connectivity and improving quality of life.

This investment is also critical to economic development. US-69 provides direct access to Port Muskogee and supports the movement of goods throughout the region. Eliminating detours for oversized trucks and improving corridor efficiency will support continued growth in our industrial and logistics sectors.

The City of Muskogee values its partnership with ODOT and strongly supports this application. This project aligns with federal BUILD programs priorities by advancing safety, mobility, economic competitiveness, and community connectivity. We respectfully urge favorable consideration of this request.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering this important investment in our community.

Sincerely,



Kendal Francis ICMS-CM, CPM
City Manager
City of Muskogee