



**CITY OF
Tulsa**
A New Kind of Energy.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION**

August 24, 2009

Gary Ridley, Secretary of Transportation
Oklahoma Department of Transportation
200 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-3204

Re: Expression of Support for the I244 Arkansas River Bridge Replacement Project in Tulsa, OK

Dear Secretary Ridley,

As Chairman of the City of Tulsa's Economic Development Commission, this letter serves as our expression of support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's "I244 Bundle" project package for improvements across the Arkansas River in Tulsa. Improvement in transportation safety and capacity provided by this multi-modal project are unique value to our community and the twenty-one represented volunteer members of the Economic Development Commission.

Our members consist of a cross-section of Tulsa citizens from the small business, investor, communications, aerospace, banking, retail development, education and entrepreneur sectors, to name a few. All are passionate about the region and in particular the opportunities to propel our City forward through the long-overdue access to new rail systems. We are certain this activity is crucial to all economic development efforts here now and for the future.

Recognizing the highly competitive nature of the TIGER Program, we believe it is especially important that this project be funded due to broad range of community, state and federal goals for repairing critical system components, addressing safety issues, enhancing economic competitiveness, improving livability and establishing sustainable development and operations of transportation systems. The "I244 Bundle" does all this for highway, freight and commuter rail traffic, and for area bicycle, walking and running enthusiasts.

Thank you very much for your vision and for your positive consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Economic Development Commission, City of Tulsa
Bruce Bolzle, Chairman
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