



A voluntary association of local governments serving Creek, Osage, Rogers, Tulsa and Wagoner Counties

2 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 800 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103-3123 918.584.7526 www.incog.org

September 10, 2009

Ginger McGovern  
ODOT Planning and Research Division  
200 NE 21 Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Ginger,

Subject: TIGER Grant Application

We are in receipt of your letters dated August 3, 2009, regarding the TIGER application ODOT has prepared for construction of a multimodal bridge across the Arkansas River at I-244 in Tulsa.

Regarding the long range transportation plan, this project was included in the Roadways, Goods Movement, and Public Transportation elements of the *Destination 2030* plan adopted by INCOG in August 2005. The proposed improvement in the TIGER application substantially addresses the recommendations in the *Destination 2030* plan and is therefore consistent with the plan.

Regarding the Transportation Improvement Program, federal law requires the TIP to be financially constrained to the available revenue so this project is not currently on the TIP due to the lack of a committed source of funding. Therefore the Transportation Technical Committee and Transportation Policy Committee at their regularly scheduled meetings on August 19 and August 27, 2009 respectively, approved a resolution committing to amending the TIP to include this project should it be selected for funding. Today the INCOG Board of Directors adopted this resolution which is attached.

By this action INCOG is expressing its strong support for this application and its potential benefit to the state as well as the region. The replacement of the I-244 bridges is the highest priority roadway improvement in the region for safety, security, freight movement, and congestion considerations. The construction of the rail transit bridge is the most critical component for the future regional rail transit system and the Oklahoma high speed rail system, without which neither system is feasible. This is an ideal project for the TIGER grant.

Please contact me at your convenience if you have any questions.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Armer".

Timothy Armer  
INCOG Transportation Planning Manager

RESOLUTION 266

A RESOLUTION STATING INCOG'S WILLINGNESS TO ADD THE PROPOSED INTERSTATE 244 ARKANSAS RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE TULSA TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA.

WHEREAS, The Indian Nations Council of Governments (INCOG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Tulsa Transportation Management Area; and

WHEREAS, On February 17, 2009 the President of the United States signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) (Public Law No. 111-5) which included provision of \$1.5 billion in Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants to be administered by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the TIGER Discretionary Grant program is to provide funding for projects that have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region; and

WHEREAS, the I-244/US-75 bridge spanning the Arkansas River is currently considered structurally deficient, considered in poor condition, rated 37 out of 100 for sufficiency rating, and has reached the end of its design life; and

WHEREAS, *The Oklahoma Department of Transportation* intends to submit an application to reconstruct both the east- and westbound bridges and include a passenger rail bridge beneath the westbound bridge structure for future local and high-speed rail transit to Oklahoma City; and

WHEREAS, grant guidance issued on June 17, 2009 in the Federal Register requires applicants of TIGER Discretionary Grant funds to include a resolution in the application from the MPO stating the willingness to add the project to the current Transportation Improvement Program if selected for funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the INCOG Board of Directors expresses its willingness to add the above referenced project to the Transportation Improvement Program for the Tulsa Transportation Management Area upon selection for funding by the United States Department of Transportation and subsequent notification to INCOG by Tulsa County and USDOT.

APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2009.

  
John Selph, Chairman

ATTEST:

