## Tulsa Running Club P.O. Box 3304 Tulsa, OK 74101-3304

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

August 24, 2009

Re: Expression of Support for the 1-244 Bridge Bundle - Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail Enhancements Project in Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Secretary Ridley,

This is the Tulsa Running Club's expression of support for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's "I-244 Bundle" project package for improvements across the Arkansas River in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Improvement in transportation safety and capacity provided by this multimodal project are of a unique value to our community and those participants of The Tulsa Running Club.

A portion of the Trail Enhancement Package that would be of particular benefit to members of the Tulsa Running Club would be the elimination of the pedestrian/bicycle bridge over the BNSF railroad tracks and the realignment of the trail to go under the bridge. Also another major benefit to the club members would be the extension of the West Bank Trail. These two projects especially would be of a great benefit to the Tulsa Running Club members by enhancing the safety and extension of our community's extraordinary trail system that has helped label Tulsa as one of America's Most Livable Communities.

Recognizing the highly competitive nature of the TIGER Program, we believe it is especially important that this project be funded as it meets the broad range of community, state and federal goals for repairing critical system components, addressing safety issues, enhancing economic competitiveness, improving livability, establishing sustainable development, and improving operations of transportation systems. The "I-244 Bundle" meets the particular needs of area bicycle, walking, and running enthusiasts.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Johnny Spriggs

President
Tulsa Running Club

Secretary Tulsa Running Club

Treasurer
Tulsa Running Club