



April 27, 2016

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE
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The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
12 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes hereby support the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Tiger VIII Grant application for the rural railroad/highway crossings signal upgrades. The Tiger VIII Grant funds will be used to modernize and improve rail safety infrastructure at railroad crossings in the rural Oklahoma areas that either experience high volumes of train traffic or intersect with highway routes that serve as major access routes to rural cities, towns and surrounding communities.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes have a specific interest to proposed activities identified under AARDOT #597430K which intersects with County Road 2274 east of Clinton, Oklahoma in Custer County and located on Clinton Reserve lands of the Tribes' Reservation Boundary. County Road #2274 serves as a major arterial route to the Tribes' lands held in trust by the Secretary of Interior, further identified as Clinton Reserve, and has facilities that provide health, education, employment and employment support services, housing and transportation services to Tribal members and the general public from surrounding communities. Furthermore, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes anticipate continued growth in vehicle traffic with future developments within the Clinton Reserve lands. The improvements of the railroad/highway crossing at County Road #2274 will ensure the safety of all motorists, including Tribal members and the general public.

In light of increases in both railroad and motor vehicle traffic, ODOT is attempting through the Tiger VIII Grant to improve the routes that access various rural communities and with the most critical railroad/road crossings while improving the quality of life of all Oklahomans. ODOT's Tiger VIII Grant application for railroad/highway crossing safety upgrades is a positive step for Oklahomans and a positive step for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Sincerely,

Eddie Hamilton, Governor