



April 27, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
United States

Ref: BUILD Grant Award for the Southwest Oklahoma Regional Freight Plan

Dear Secretary Chao:

Respectfully, I would like to thank you for your time and consideration in reviewing the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation discretionary grant application submitted by the South Western Oklahoma Development Authority (SWODA) for a rural planning grant to develop a regional freight plan covering our sixteen-county region.

The BUILD grant award will provide regional freight planning assistance that will culminate with development and adoption of a regional freight plan that will guide freight investments to support the region's goals for safety, economic vitality and efficiency. This effort is a coordinated response to the increased need to study and plan efficient multi-modal freight routes at the regional level. The southwest Oklahoma region is a vital component in connecting statewide freight flows. This planning initiative enjoys broad support from the region because Southwest Oklahoma supports many robust freight-dependent industries, including oil and gas, agriculture, wind energy, and military installations.

If awarded the BUILD grant, we will develop a robust Southwest Oklahoma Regional Freight Mobility Plan making it possible for our region to further strengthen the connectivity of freight modes and prioritize and plan for investments in this important region. If awarded a U.S. DOT BUILD grant, the funding will be spent on the approved project and will not be utilized on any project outside of what is defined in the grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debora Glasgow".

Debora Glasgow  
Executive Director  
South Western Oklahoma Development Authority  
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