



**Scott R. Mueller**

Secretary of Commerce & Workforce Development  
State of Oklahoma

July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
United States

Re: FY 21 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, I write to share our support of the Ardmore Development Authority's FY21 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant application, *International Air Cargo Development Project at the Global Transportation and Industrial Park in Ardmore, Oklahoma*, for the development of a global air cargo facility at the Ardmore Municipal Airport, a former military base, and an underutilized asset that rests within southern Oklahoma and the heart of the Chickasaw Nation.

The construction of a new international multi-modal cargo facility at the Ardmore Airport will spur economic development in a rural area of persistent poverty in our state, creating thousands of jobs and a measurable return on investment for our economy. With this investment, our region will become a competitive destination for air cargo, both international and domestic, while allowing for a centrally located, low-cost alternative to the various congested air cargo handling facilities in the United States, and particularly those that serve Oklahoma and the middle of our country, including the burgeoning "Megalopolis" that is growing out of North Central Texas.

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce is proud to endorse this project. Likewise, this project has support from the top down, including the Oklahoma Federal Delegation, The Chickasaw Nation, the City of Ardmore, the leadership of Carter County and other support of public and private stakeholders. The RAISE program is designed for these types of projects and, therefore, we ask that you please select this project in the FY21 round of funding.

We appreciate your support of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott R. Mueller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" being the most prominent.

Scott R. Mueller  
Secretary of Commerce  
State of Oklahoma