



the
Chickasaw
Nation DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

2020 LONNIE ABBOTT BOULEVARD | ADA, OK 74820 | (580) 421-9500

Bill Anoatubby
Governor

Chris Anoatubby
Lt. Governor

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: FY 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)
Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Chickasaw Nation Department of Commerce is pleased to support the Ardmore Development Authority's application for a grant award through the FY 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program for its International Air Cargo Development Project at the Global Transportation and Industrial Park located near Interstate 35 in Ardmore, Oklahoma, between Oklahoma City and the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex. This project will help facilitate economic development and job creation in a rural area of persistent poverty, which is precisely the sort of project the RAISE program was designed to support.

If awarded, the RAISE grant funds would be utilized to help fund construction of a new international multi-modal cargo facility at the Ardmore Municipal Airport, a former military base and underutilized asset located within the heart of the Chickasaw Nation reservation. This new facility will serve as a competitive destination for air cargo, both international and domestic, providing a centrally located, low-cost alternative to existing congested air cargo handling facilities currently serving Oklahoma, numerous tribal nations and the burgeoning "Megalopolis" in North Central Texas.

In addition to the endorsement of the Chickasaw Nation Department of Commerce, this project also enjoys the support of Oklahoma's Congressional delegation, along with government agencies across the State of Oklahoma, the City of Ardmore, Carter County, and numerous other public and private stakeholders. We are pleased to join with them in respectfully requesting your favorable consideration of the Ardmore Development Authority's request for a grant award in the RAISE program's FY 2021 round of funding.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important project.

Sincerely,

Bill G. Lance, Secretary
Department of Commerce