

**JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JACKSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
101 N MAIN, ROOM 101
ALTUS OK 73521
580-482-4420**

**Mike Wallace
District 1**

**Kirk Butler
District 2**

**Rhet Johnson
District 3**

April 20, 2020

Elaine Chao, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Altus, Oklahoma FY2020 BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

We, the Jackson County, Oklahoma Commissioners are pleased to support the Altus Economic Loop, 2020 BUILD grant application for the Altus Economic Loop project.

The Altus Economic Loop will have a significant local and regional impact to the County, City of Altus, and surrounding region. The proposed improvements will improve the condition and reliability of roadways that serve passengers and freight traffic, and contribute to the economic vitality of southwestern Oklahoma.

Jackson County is the largest producer of cotton in the state of Oklahoma, and many of the production and distribution facilities related to this industry are located on the roadways that comprise the loop. Currently the roadway is prone to flooding and heavy rains force the roadway to close on average over once a year. The costs of responding to flood events and repairing the damaged roadways is a burden to the County and City of Altus. Moreover, the costs of detours and inaccessibility of certain businesses has negative impacts on the local economy.

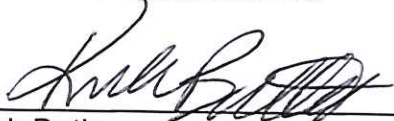
If granted, the associated BUILD grant request will provide an improved route on the west side of Altus and provide a safe, resilient, and reliable roadway that will be protected against flooding and accommodate future growth. The project will enhance agricultural manufacturing and process in Altus and will encourage future development.

We request you give the City of Altus, Oklahoma FY2020 BUILD grant request full and fair consideration, within applicable laws and regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

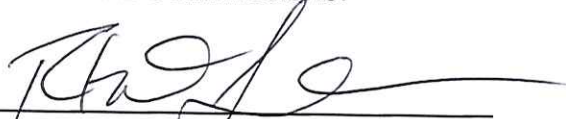
Sincerely,



Mike Wallace,
District #1 Commissioner



Kirk Butler,
District #2 Commissioner



Rhet Johnson,
District #3 Commissioner



Robin Booker,
County Clerk