



Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2027 Application Package | Memo

To: Representative Troy Waymaster, Chair, Build Kansas Advisory Committee
Walter Nelson, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Shauna Wake, Office of the Kansas State Treasurer

From: Shawn Wesner, Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub

RE: Build Kansas Fund Application #2027-215-SCKEDD Cowley County

Date: September 4, 2026

Attached, please find an application made to the Build Kansas Fund by Cowley County. The application packet includes the following items:

- Coversheet – provides a high-level overview of the application including a unique identification number, page 2 of 45 of the Build Kansas Fund Application Package.
- Build Kansas Fund Application – includes information submitted with the Build Kansas Fund Application, pages 3-9. Page 10 provides the table of funding sources and zip codes served by the project.
- Attachments – Project narrative and letters of support, pages 11-45.

Project Overview

Cowley County seeks funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding available through the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) (Part B): Bridge Project Grants program for their Southcentral Kansas Rural Bridge Investment Partnership project which includes replacing 30 structurally deficient rural bridges to improve safety, restore full load capacity, and strengthen transportation connectivity across Cowley and Butler Counties.

This opportunity is a discretionary IIJA program with a local match requirement of 20% of the total project cost. The entity is requesting \$5,000,000.00 from the Build Kansas Fund, and is providing a local cash match of \$14,529,232.00. This request has the potential to unlock \$78,116,928.00 in federal funds, for a total project cost of \$97,646,160.00.

The deadline for this opportunity was June 29, 2026, and this Build Kansas Fund application was received on May 29, 2026.

Previously Awarded BKF

Program/Fiscal Year	BKF Amount	Federal Award Status	BKF Status
SS4A/FY25	\$365,433.40	Not Awarded	Approved
SS4A/FY26	\$777,028.00	N/A	Declined

Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee Recommendation

The Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee reviewed this application on July 22, 2026 following a successful completeness check. The Steering Committee **RECOMMENDS APPROVAL** of Build Kansas Funding to the Build Kansas Advisory Committee.

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2027

Application Package | Coversheet



Build Kansas Fund Application Number	2026-215-SCKEDD		
Applicant Name	Cowley County		
Application Date Received	5/29/2026		
Project Name	Southcentral Kansas Rural Bridge Investment Partnership		
Project Description	Replace 30 structurally deficient rural bridges to improve safety, restore full load capacity, and strengthen transportation connectivity across Cowley and Butler Counties.		
Entity Type	County Government		
Economic Development District (EDD)	South Central KS Economic Development District		
Infrastructure Sector(s)	Transportation		
IIJA Program	Bridge Investment Program (BIP) (Part B): Bridge Project Grants		
IIJA Program Type	Discretionary		
Application Type	Implementation		
IIJA Application Deadline	6/29/2026		
Build Kansas Fund Request	\$5,000,000.00		
Technical Assistance Received	General	Yes ☒ No ☐	
	IIJA Application	Yes ☒ No ☐	
	Build Kansas Fund Application	Yes ☒ No ☐	
Application Notes	Build Kansas Fund contribution of \$5,000,000.00 will unlock \$78,116,928.00 in federal IIJA funding, with a local cash contribution of \$14,529,232.00, for a total project cost of \$97,646,160.00.		
Previously Awarded BKF Applications (If Applicable)	Program/FY	BKF Amount	BKF/Federal Status
	SS4A/FY26	\$365,433.40	Approved/Not Awarded
	SS4A/FY26	\$777,028.00	Declined/N/A
Steering Committee Funding Recommendation	7/22/2026 Recommend ☒ Declined ☐		
Advisory Committee Funding Recommendation	9/4/2026 Recommend ☐ Declined ☐		

Title	COWLEY COUNTY	06/29/2026
	by Jon Jordan in Build Kansas Fund Application	id. 54511233
	jjjordan@cowleycountyks.gov	

Original Submission	06/29/2026
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Score	n/a
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Part 1: Applicant Information

The name of the entity applying for the Build Kansas Fund:	COWLEY COUNTY
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Project Name:	SOUTHCENTRAL KANSAS RURAL BRIDGE INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP
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Entity type:	Local Government
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Entity Population:	34,513
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Applicant Contact Name:	Jon Jordan
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Applicant Contact Position/Title:	PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT
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Applicant Contact Telephone Number:	+16202621172
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Applicant Contact Email Address:	jjjordan@cowleycountyks.gov
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Applicant Contact Address:	311 E 9TH AVE
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Applicant Contact Address Line 2 (optional):	
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Applicant Contact City:	Winfield
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Applicant Contact State:	Kansas
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Applicant Contact Zip 67156
Code:

Is the Project Contact Yes
the same as the
Applicant Contact?

Part 2: Build Kansas Fund - Eligibility Criteria

Certify that you are Yes
pursuing an
Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs
Act (IIJA) funding
opportunity for which
your entity is eligible:

Certify that the Yes
Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs
Act (IIJA) funding
opportunity you are
pursuing has a
required non-federal
match component:

What is the primary Butler County
county that the
project will occur in?

The Build Kansas Fund is intended to support Kansas-based infrastructure projects. Please provide a list of all the zip codes this project will be located in, along with an estimated percent [%] of the project located in that zip code. For example, if seeking funding for road infrastructure, provide a rough percent of the roads expected in each zip code:

[Zip Code Percentage.xlsx](#)

Part 3: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) - Grant Application
Information Please Note: This information is related to the federal
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity to which
you will apply. This is NOT information for the Build Kansas Match Fund.

Please enter the BRIDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM - BIP
Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs
Act (IIJA) funding
opportunity title that
the entity is applying
for:

What is the funding agency for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? U.S. Department of Transportation

What is the Assistance Listing Number (ALN) for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 20.264

What is the federal application due date for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 6/29/2026

Application Type: Implementation

What is the federal fiscal year for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 2026

Enter the amount of funding being applied for, from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity: \$78,116,928.00

Enter the total project cost: \$97,646,160.00

Enter the required non-federal match percentage: 20%

Part 4: Build Kansas Fund - Match Application Information Beginning in July 2024 and moving forward, eligible applicants are expected to contribute a portion of the non-Federal match requirement. This contribution can be in the form of cash and/or in-kind contributions. The goal is to demonstrate the applicant's commitment to the project. The contribution should be significant enough relative to the Build Kansas Fund request. For a local public entity, 5% of the non-federal match is a good guideline, but not a requirement. See Build Kansas Fund Program Guidance for exceptions and more information.

Enter the non-federal cash match amount being requested from the Build Kansas Fund: \$5,000,000.00

Enter the non-federal cash match amount being provided by the eligible applicant, if applicable: \$14,529,232.00

Enter the estimated value of the non-federal in-kind match amount being provided by the eligible applicant, if applicable: 0

Expected breakdown of funding sources to support the project: Enter the funding source and projected amount from each source to support this project:

[Kansas+DOT+table_V2.xlsx](#)

Part 5: Build Kansas Fund - Means Test and Eligible Applicant Match

What other available funding sources that are currently planned to go unused by your entity will be leveraged for this project? NONE

Will any American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies be used for the non-federal match? NO

What other sources of in-kind match will be leveraged for this project? Please list and include the actual or estimated value of each.

NONE

What other funding sources (local, federal, or non-federal) will be used for this match?

NO OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Describe your efforts to find other available funding sources for this project:

COWLEY COUNTY AND BUTLER COUNTY HAVE ADEQUATE FUNDING TO COVER THE LOCAL MATCH OF THE PROJECT.

Part 6: Additional Information

Please upload a draft or final version of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) program grant application associated with this request OR an executive summary providing an overview of the project:

[Bridge_Structure_Map_for_Southcentral_Kansas_Rural_Bridge_Investment_Partnership.pdf](#)

[CowleyButler_BIP_Information-For_Application.xlsx](#)

[ZIP_Codes_for_Southcentral_Kansas_Rural_Bridge_Investment_Partnership_Project.xlsx](#)

[Letters_of_Support-Combined.pdf](#)

[Executive_Summary.pdf](#)

Provide any additional information about this project not covered in previous sections of this application (optional):

The Southcentral Kansas Rural Bridge Investment Partnership represents an unprecedented regional collaboration between Cowley County and Butler County to address one of the largest rural bridge replacement efforts ever undertaken by two Kansas counties. Both counties have independently committed significant local resources toward the completion of project design, preliminary engineering and environmental review, demonstrating a level of financial commitment rarely achievable by local governments without state and federal partnership.

BUILD Kansas funding will play a critical role by reducing the local financial burden associated with the required non-federal match for the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program. The requested funding will not only strengthen the competitiveness of the federal application but will also allow both counties to preserve local transportation funding for ongoing road maintenance, emergency repairs, and other essential infrastructure needs.

Beyond replacing aging bridges, this investment will improve the resiliency of the regional transportation network by providing safer, wider structures designed to meet modern design standards and accommodate today's agricultural equipment, commercial freight traffic, school transportation, and emergency response vehicles. These improvements will reduce detour distances, improve reliability for rural businesses and producers, and support continued economic growth throughout southcentral Kansas.

The partnership between Cowley and Butler Counties demonstrates a shared commitment to maximizing public investment through regional cooperation. By pursuing a coordinated replacement program rather than individual projects, the counties are leveraging economies of scale, sharing resources, and presenting a unified strategy to improve critical transportation infrastructure. BUILD Kansas participation will help transform years of planning and local investment into a once-in-a-generation opportunity to modernize essential bridge infrastructure while providing lasting safety, mobility, and economic benefits for residents, businesses, and visitors throughout the region.

Part 7: Terms and Conditions

Understanding of Fund Release Requirements:	checked
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Understanding of Use of Funds:	checked
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Understanding of Reporting Requirements:	checked
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Authority to Make Grant Application:	checked
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Persons and Titles: JON
The following persons JORDAN
are responsible for
making this Build
Kansas Fund
application.

Position/Title:	PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT
Additional:	LUCAS GOFF
Position/Title:	COWLEY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Additional:	CURTIS MADER
Position/Title:	BUTLER COUNTY ENGINEER AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Additional:	JOHN RIGGINS
Position/Title:	COWLEY COUNTY CONTRACTED ENGINEER

Project Source	Amount	% of Project
Build Kansas Funds (non-federal match)	\$5,000,000.00	5.12%
Eligible Applicant Cash Match	\$14,529,232.00	14.88%
Eligible Applicant In-Kind Match (estimated value)	\$0.00	0.00%
IIJA Federal Funds (applied for)	\$78,116,928.00	80.00%
Additional Project Contribution (if applicable)	\$0.00	0.00%
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$97,646,160.00	100.00%

Project Match	Amount	% of Match
Build Kansas Funds	\$5,000,000.00	25.60%
Applicant Contribution	\$14,529,232.00	74.40%
TOTAL MATCH	\$19,529,232.00	100.00%

Zip Code	% of project in zip code
COWLEY 67038	7.89%
COWLEY 67005	7.89%
COWLEY 67156	7.89%
COWLEY 67023	5.26%
COWLEY 67146	2.64%
COWLEY 67131	7.89%
BUTLER 67039	18.42%
BUTLER 67008	2.64%
BUTLER 67133	2.64%
	63.16% In Kansas

Executive Summary

Southcentral Kansas Rural Bridge Investment Partnership

Cowley and Butler Counties are teaming up to apply for funding assistance through the FHWA's Bridge Investment Program that is part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). This funding source offers an 80/20 split for bridge replacement projects that are less than \$100 million in total costs. It is anticipated that funding selections will be announced by the end of 2026.

These two counties are home to numerous aging bridges, many of which are structurally deficient or at risk of becoming deficient due to aging conditions. The proposed project will consist of replacing 15 bridges within Cowley County and 15 bridges within Butler County to provide an adequate and safe transportation network for the public, industry, and agricultural road uses of the county. Several bridges, including those built in the early 1900s, are posted with low load limits, which restricts truck traffic and poses safety concerns. Load rating analyses reveal that while some bridges still support moderate tonnage, deterioration threatens their long-term viability. High Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes, especially on key crossings, underscore the importance of maintaining reliable infrastructure. Replacing these bridges is critical to ensuring safe, efficient movement for local residents, emergency services, and freight carriers. Timely investment in bridge replacement will prevent closures and maintain essential connectivity across both counties.

The counties entered into preliminary engineering agreements in 2025 with engineering consultant for design of the new bridges. Combined, the counties already have roughly \$2 million invested in preliminary engineering for this project. More than 10 of the bridge designs have already had the field check performed, which normally occurs when the plans are about 50% complete. The investigations to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) have all started, with roughly 50% of the structures ready to begin Phase 2 reviews. Cowley and Butler Counties have demonstrated an almost unheard of financial commitment from a county that amounts to multiple years of the amounts they normally allocate to bridge design costs.

The goal of the project is to provide road users in Cowley and Butler Counties with direct routes between destinations that can be utilized by all vehicles that are carrying legal loads. Replacing these bridges would preserve safe and reliable access to the travelling public across both counties. By replacing the structures before failure, this would eliminate the county having to choose between leaving a bridge closed for an extended period of time or paying high costs for accelerated design and construction to replace the structure. Given the rural nature of these bridges, local farmers and ranchers are often the most frequent users. By removing the weight restrictions, this will allow these users to utilize the most direct farm to market route, saving both time and costs.

As can be seen in the attached table, the estimated total cost of this project is just over \$90 million, with 80% of those costs hopefully covered by BIL funding. That still leaves the local share are just under \$18 million. If Build Kansas awards the maximum funding of \$5 million, the counties will have approximately \$13 million remaining in funding responsibility for this project.

\$13 million may not seem like a large amount but it represents well over half of each counties annual road and bridge operating budget and would equate to many years of the amounts they are allocated for bridge replacement projects. In spite of the cost to the county, Cowley and Butler Counties believe that this is a worthwhile investment for their counties, communities, and residents.

Many of the existing structures are posted for load with several being less than 22-feet curb to curb. The new bridges will be constructed to be no less than 28-feet wide (many will be over 30-feet) to accommodate the ever-increasing size of large vehicles and farm equipment. Each bridge will be equipped with a handrail and approach guard fence to promote safety. The bridge types were chosen to minimum the number of piers in the channels to reduce the likelihood of drift accumulating and causing the need for additional maintenance or repairs.

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE,
NUTRITION, AND
FORESTRY
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS
INTELLIGENCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
CHAIRMAN

June 3, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20003

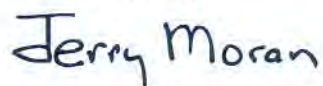
Dear Secretary Duffy:

I write in support of Butler County and Cowley County's joint application to the Federal Highway Administrations Bridge Investment Program. This collaborative proposal reflects a proactive, regionally coordinated approach to addressing critical bridge infrastructure needs in south central Kansas.

Together, the counties are proposing improvements to 38 bridges. This coordinated effort demonstrates shared priorities, unified planning, and a strong commitment to project readiness by voluntarily funding early engineering work. Additionally, the counties have prioritized some of their most critically load-rated bridges, ensuring that federal investment will address the most pressing safety and reliability needs.

This joint application reflects thoughtful planning, fiscal responsibility, and a shared commitment to improving rural transportation infrastructure. Thank you for your continued commitment to strengthening Americas infrastructure and supporting rural communities.

Sincerely,



Jerry Moran

June 11, 2026

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

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I write in support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The proposed bridge replacement project represents a significant investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure in south-central Kansas. Rural bridges play a critical role in supporting agriculture, commerce, school transportation, emergency response, and daily travel for residents across our communities. Ensuring these structures remain safe and dependable is essential to maintaining economic stability and quality of life throughout the region.

Many of the bridges identified within this application were constructed decades ago and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Several structures currently have reduced load postings, creating limitations for freight movement and forcing costly detours for agricultural producers, commercial traffic, emergency services, and the traveling public. Replacing these bridges will improve roadway safety, strengthen freight mobility, reduce long-term maintenance burdens, and preserve critical transportation connections between Butler and Cowley Counties.

This project also reflects a strong example of regional cooperation between two counties working together to proactively address infrastructure needs before emergency closures or failures occur. The partnership between Butler and Cowley Counties demonstrates responsible planning and a shared commitment to improving transportation resilience for the benefit of residents, businesses, and future economic growth.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program. Investment in these bridges will help ensure continued access to reliable transportation routes that are vital to Kansas agriculture, industry, emergency response, and community connectivity. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this application. My office stands ready to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Roger Marshall, M.D.
U.S. Senate

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1604

June 25, 2026

Administrator Sean McMaster
Federal Highway Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington D.C., 20590

Dear Administrator McMaster,

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The proposed bridge replacement project represents a significant investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south central Kansas. Ensuring these structures remain safe and dependable is essential to maintaining economic stability and quality of life throughout the region.

Many of the bridges identified within this application were constructed decades ago and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Several structures currently have reduced load postings, creating limitations for freight movement and forcing costly detours for agricultural producers, commercial traffic, emergency services, and the traveling public. Replacing these bridges will help address these limitations.

This project also reflects a strong example of regional cooperation between two counties working together to proactively address infrastructure needs before emergency closures or failures occur. The partnership between Butler and Cowley demonstrates responsible planning and a shared commitment to improving transportation resilience throughout south central Kansas. As a regional economic and population hub, this cooperation will result in benefits for the entire state of Kansas and other nearby states.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Because of this, I strongly support Butler County and Cowley County's application.

I appreciate your agency's work to support vital infrastructure projects throughout our nation and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ron Estes
Member of Congress

STATE CAPITOL
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7678
michael.fagg@senate.ks.gov



1810 TERRACE DRIVE
ELDORADO, KANSAS 67042
(316) 377-7987

MICHAEL A. FAGG
SENATOR
STATE OF KANSAS

June 1, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The proposed bridge replacement projects represent an important investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south-central Kansas. Reliable rural transportation networks are critical for supporting agriculture, local businesses, school transportation, emergency response services, and the daily travel needs of residents across the multiple county area.

This project demonstrates strong regional cooperation and initiative-taking planning between Butler and Cowley Counties to address critical infrastructure needs before emergency closures or costly bridge failures occur. These improvements will help maintain reliable transportation access for rural residents while supporting continued economic development, public safety, and long-term infrastructure resiliency throughout the region. Investment in these bridges will help ensure dependable transportation routes that remain essential to Kansas agriculture, commerce, and regional connectivity.

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Fagg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael A. Fagg
Kansas State Senator
District 14

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
300 S.W. TENTH AVENUE
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-5016
Sandy.Pickert@house.ks.gov



SANDY PICKERT
88TH DISTRICT

DISTRICT ADDRESS
8434 E. MT. VERNON CT.
WICHITA, KS 67207
(316) 990-0868
sandypickert@yahoo.com

June 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The proposed bridge replacement project represents an important investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south-central Kansas. Rural transportation systems are vital to supporting agriculture, local businesses, school transportation, emergency response services, and the daily travel needs of residents throughout our communities.

Many of the bridges identified within this application were constructed decades ago and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Several bridges currently have reduced load postings, limiting freight movement and creating costly detours for agricultural producers, commercial traffic, emergency responders, and the traveling public. Replacing these structures will improve roadway safety, strengthen freight mobility, reduce maintenance costs, and preserve critical transportation connections throughout Butler and Cowley Counties.

This project demonstrates strong regional cooperation and proactive planning between Butler and Cowley Counties to address infrastructure needs before emergency closures or costly failures occur. These improvements will help support continued economic development while maintaining dependable transportation access for residents, businesses, schools, and emergency services throughout the region.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize infrastructure, improve transportation resilience, and strengthen rural communities. Investment in these bridges will help ensure reliable transportation routes that remain essential to Kansas agriculture, commerce, and regional connectivity.

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandy Pickert
Kansas State Representative – District 88

STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
CHAIR: HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
VICE CHAIR: SOCIAL SERVICES BUDGET
MEMBER: APPROPRIATIONS

WILL CARPENTER
REPRESENTATIVE, 75TH DISTRICT
6965 SW 18TH STREET
EL DORADO, KANSAS 67042
(316) 323-3404 (C)

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 352-S
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7660

May 30, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The proposed bridge replacement project represents an important investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south-central Kansas. Reliable rural transportation networks are critical to supporting agriculture, local businesses, energy production, school transportation, emergency response services, and the daily travel needs of residents throughout the region.

Many of the bridges identified within this application were originally constructed decades ago and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Several bridges currently have reduced load postings, creating limitations for freight movement and requiring costly detours for agricultural producers, commercial traffic, emergency responders, and the traveling public. Replacing these structures will improve roadway safety, increase transportation efficiency, strengthen freight mobility, and preserve critical transportation corridors that support economic growth across Butler and Cowley Counties.

This project demonstrates strong regional cooperation and responsible long-term planning between Butler and Cowley Counties to proactively address infrastructure needs before emergency closures or costly bridge failures occur. These improvements will help maintain dependable transportation access for rural residents while supporting continued economic development and public safety throughout the area.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize infrastructure, improve transportation resiliency, and strengthen rural communities. Investment in these bridges will help ensure reliable transportation routes that remain essential to Kansas agriculture, commerce, and regional connectivity.

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Will Carpenter

Kansas State Representative – District 75

State of Kansas



TY MASTERSON
Senate President

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The proposed bridge replacement project represents a critical investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south-central Kansas. Strong rural transportation networks are essential for supporting agriculture, local businesses, school transportation, emergency response services, and the daily travel needs of residents across the region.

Many of the bridges identified within this application were constructed decades ago and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Several bridges currently have reduced load postings, creating transportation limitations for agricultural producers, freight movement, emergency responders, and the traveling public. Replacing these structures will improve roadway safety, strengthen freight mobility, reduce long-term maintenance costs, and preserve dependable transportation connections throughout Butler and Cowley Counties.

This project demonstrates strong regional cooperation and responsible long-term planning between Butler and Cowley Counties to proactively address infrastructure needs before emergency closures or costly failures occur. These improvements will help support continued economic development while ensuring reliable transportation access for residents, businesses, schools, and emergency services throughout the region.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize infrastructure, improve public safety, and strengthen rural communities. Investment in these bridges will help ensure dependable transportation routes that remain essential to Kansas agriculture, commerce, and regional connectivity.

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Ty Masterson
Kansas State Senator – District 16



June 11, 2026

Bridge Investment Program Review Committee
Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Letter of Support for Butler County and Cowley County Bridge Investment Program Application

Dear Bridge Investment Program Review Committee:

As Butler County Administrator, Assistant County Administrator/Finance Director, and County Engineer, we are pleased to provide this letter of strong support for Butler County and Cowley County's joint application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Butler County is committed to responsible financial stewardship and works diligently to maintain critical infrastructure while minimizing the tax burden on residents. Through careful budgeting and long-term planning, the County has consistently invested in bridge maintenance and replacement within the limits of available local funding.

Despite these efforts, the scope of our bridge needs exceeds what can reasonably be addressed through local resources alone. Butler County currently maintains numerous bridges classified in poor condition. Based on current local funding levels, it would take approximately 18 years to replace all existing structures in poor condition, not accounting for additional bridges that may deteriorate during that time.

The proposed partnership between Butler and Cowley Counties presents an opportunity to address critical infrastructure needs in a proactive and cost-effective manner. Federal funding through the Bridge Investment Program would accelerate the replacement of aging bridges, improve public safety, enhance freight and agricultural transportation, reduce future maintenance costs, and strengthen regional connectivity.

Many of these bridges serve as vital routes for residents, businesses, school transportation, agriculture, and emergency services. Replacing these structures now will help prevent future closures, reduce transportation disruptions, and preserve the reliability of our transportation network for years to come.

The Bridge Investment Program offers a unique opportunity to leverage federal investment to address infrastructure needs that cannot be met through local funding alone. We respectfully request favorable consideration of this application and appreciate your support in helping Butler and Cowley Counties improve the safety, reliability, and resilience of our bridge infrastructure.

Sincerely,

William Johnson
Butler County Administrator

Ryan Adkison
Butler County Assistant County
Administrator/Finance Director

Curtis Mader, P.E.
Director of Public Works/County
Engineer



The Butler County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to provide this letter of strong support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

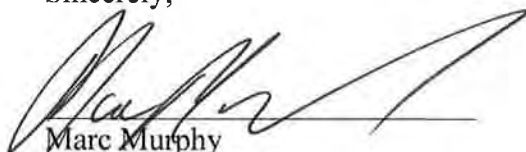
The proposed replacement of aging bridge infrastructure throughout Butler and Cowley Counties represents a significant investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of our regional transportation network. Many of these bridges have served our communities for decades and now face increasing maintenance challenges, load restrictions, and operational limitations that impact residents, businesses, agriculture, school transportation, and emergency services.

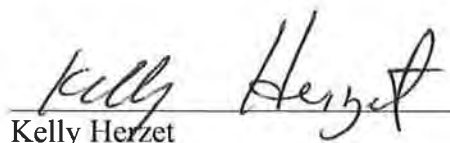
These bridge improvements will enhance public safety, strengthen freight and agricultural transportation routes, reduce future maintenance costs, and improve connectivity throughout south-central Kansas. The project will also support continued economic growth by ensuring dependable transportation infrastructure for the movement of goods, services, and people throughout our region.

The partnership between Butler County and Cowley County demonstrates a proactive and collaborative approach to addressing critical infrastructure needs before emergency repairs, closures, or costly failures occur. By investing in these bridges today, we are helping preserve vital transportation connections that support our rural communities and local economies for generations to come.

The Board of County Commissioners fully supports this application and respectfully requests favorable consideration for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program. We appreciate the opportunity to advocate for this important investment in the future of our counties and the residents we serve.

Sincerely,


Marc Murphy
Commission Chairman
District 2


Kelly Herzet
Commission Vice Chairman
District 3


Jeff Masterson
District 1


Darren Jackson
District 4


Dan Woydiak
District 5



To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Butler County Emergency Services, we are writing to express our strong support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

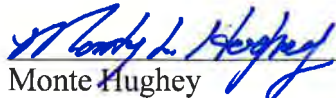
Emergency responders rely on a safe and dependable transportation network to provide timely service to residents throughout our communities. Many of the bridges included in this application serve as critical routes for law enforcement, fire suppression, emergency medical services, disaster response, and mutual aid operations. As these structures continue to age and deteriorate, load restrictions and potential closures increase the risk of response delays during emergencies when every minute matters.

The proposed replacement of aging bridges in Butler and Cowley Counties will improve emergency access, enhance public safety, and strengthen the resilience of our transportation infrastructure. Reliable bridge crossings allow emergency vehicles to reach residents, businesses, schools, and critical facilities without unnecessary detours, particularly in rural areas where alternate routes may add significant travel time.

This project represents a proactive investment in public safety and emergency preparedness. Replacing these bridges before failures occur will help ensure uninterrupted emergency response capabilities while supporting the long-term safety and well-being of the citizens we serve.

For these reasons, we respectfully support this application and encourage favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

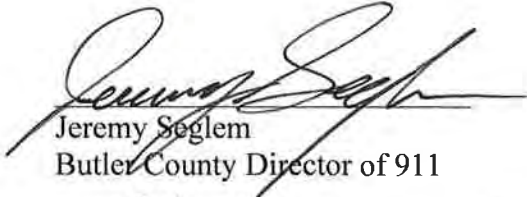
Thank you for your consideration.



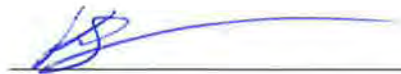
Monte Hughey
Butler County Sherrieff



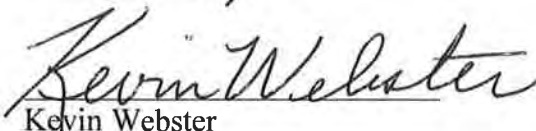
Frank Williams
Butler County Director of EMS



Jeremy Seglem
Butler County Director of 911



Keri Korthals, CEM, KCEM, MEP
Butler County Director of Emergency Management



Kevin Webster
Butler County Fire Chief #3



Cowley County Courthouse
311 E 9th Ave, Suite 104
Winfield, KS 67156

Office of Public Works

Phone: (620) 221-5425

Cowleycountyks.gov

Jon Jordan, Public Works Superintendent

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Cowley County Emergency Services to express strong support for the joint application submitted by Cowley County and Butler County for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Effective emergency management depends on reliable transportation infrastructure. During severe weather events, natural disasters, hazardous material incidents, wildfires, and other emergencies, first responders, public works personnel, utility providers, and support agencies must be able to move quickly and safely throughout the region. Likewise, our 911 Communications Center relies on an accessible roadway network to ensure that emergency resources can be dispatched efficiently to those in need.

Many of the bridges included in this application serve as important links connecting rural communities, critical facilities, and emergency response agencies. As these structures continue to age, the potential for load restrictions, reduced capacity, or unexpected closures increases. Any disruption to these routes can create operational challenges during emergency situations, requiring responders to travel longer distances and potentially delaying the delivery of critical services.

The proposed bridge replacements will strengthen the resiliency of the transportation network across both counties. Improved infrastructure will enhance emergency response capabilities, support disaster preparedness efforts, and help maintain continuity of operations during emergencies. These improvements will also benefit mutual aid coordination by providing dependable travel routes for responding agencies from neighboring jurisdictions.

The Bridge Investment Program presents an important opportunity to address infrastructure needs before they become larger public safety concerns. By replacing these bridges, Cowley and Butler Counties will improve the reliability of essential transportation corridors and better position their communities to respond to future emergencies and disasters.

For these reasons, I respectfully support this application and encourage favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

Warm Regards,

Doug Allison
Emergency Services Director
Cowley County



Sheriff of Cowley County, Kansas

Sheriff

David Falletti
dfalletti@cowleycountyks.gov

Undersheriff

Christina McDonald
cmcDonald@cowleycountyks.gov

OFFICE: 620-221-5444 FAX: 620-221-5448 JAIL: 620-221-5446
P.O. Box 47 | 911 Fuller | Winfield, KS 67156

To Whom It May Concern:

As Sheriff of Cowley County, I am pleased to provide my strong support for the joint application submitted by Butler County and Cowley County for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The transportation infrastructure within our counties plays a vital role in the ability of law enforcement agencies to effectively serve and protect the public. Deputies routinely travel across both rural and urban areas to respond to emergency calls, investigate incidents, transport individuals, assist motorists, and provide mutual aid when needed. Safe and reliable bridges are essential components of that transportation network and directly impact our ability to reach residents quickly and efficiently.

Many of the bridges included in this application are located on routes regularly traveled by law enforcement personnel. As bridge conditions continue to deteriorate, concerns regarding structural limitations, weight restrictions, and potential closures become increasingly significant. Any disruption to these routes can result in longer response times, reduced operational efficiency, and increased challenges in providing timely public safety services, particularly in remote areas where alternate routes may be limited.

The proposed replacement of these aging structures will improve connectivity throughout Butler and Cowley Counties while enhancing the reliability of critical transportation corridors used by emergency responders. Modern bridge infrastructure will help ensure Deputies have dependable access to all areas of the county, support coordinated emergency response efforts, and strengthen the overall resilience of our transportation system during severe weather events and other emergencies.

This project represents a meaningful investment in public safety and the long-term well-being of our communities. The replacement of these bridges will improve mobility, reduce risks associated with deteriorating infrastructure, and help ensure law enforcement agencies can continue to provide effective service to the citizens who depend upon us.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dave Falletti
Cowley County Sheriff

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Rock Creek Township, I am writing to express strong support for the Cowley County and Butler County joint application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The transportation network within Rock Creek Township is heavily dependent on a limited number of rural roadway corridors that connect agricultural operations, residences, and regional highways. In this setting, township bridges are not simply crossings over waterways—they are essential links that maintain the continuity of the local road system and allow residents and producers to move safely and efficiently throughout the area.

Several structures included in this application are critical to the township's transportation infrastructure, including OS 52 on 22nd Road west of 101st Road, OS 54 on 42nd Road west of US-77 Highway, and OS 47 on 2nd Road west of 121st Road. These bridges serve daily traffic ranging from farm equipment and grain hauling trucks to school transportation, emergency response vehicles, and local commuter travel.

Agricultural activity is a primary driver of travel within Rock Creek Township. Producers rely on these routes to move equipment between fields, transport commodities to market, and access agricultural supply services. When bridge conditions deteriorate or restrictions are imposed, detours can add significant travel time and operational cost, particularly during planting and harvest seasons when efficiency and timing are critical.

In addition to agricultural use, these bridges provide essential access for rural residents and support emergency response operations, ensuring that law enforcement, fire, and medical services can reach all areas of the township without unnecessary delay. In many cases, alternate routes are limited, making the reliability of these crossings especially important during weather events or emergency situations.

The proposed replacement of these aging structures will strengthen Rock Creek Township's transportation network, improve safety for all users, and ensure long-term reliability for the movement of people, goods, and services. This investment will also reduce ongoing maintenance concerns and help preserve the overall integrity of the township road system.

For these reasons, Rock Creek Township respectfully supports this application and encourages favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program. These improvements represent a necessary and proactive investment in the safety, efficiency, and sustainability of our rural transportation infrastructure.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Bowman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nick" and last name "Bowman" clearly legible.

Clerk, Rock Creek Twp.

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Salem Township, I am writing to express our support for the Cowley County and Butler County joint application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Salem Township is a predominantly rural area where transportation routes are closely tied to agricultural production and the daily needs of a small but active population. Just south of the unincorporated community of Floral, Kansas, township roads converge into a limited network of crossings that residents and producers depend on throughout the year. In this setting, even a single bridge plays a disproportionately important role in maintaining access and mobility.

The structure identified as OS 97 on 92nd Road, located just west of 131st Road, is one of those critical connections. It serves not only agricultural traffic but also the residents living in and around the Floral area who rely on this corridor for access to nearby highways, services, and surrounding communities. Because the roadway network in this portion of the township offers few practical alternate routes, this crossing functions as a key link rather than simply another bridge in the system.

Farm operations in this area regularly depend on this route for moving equipment, transporting harvested crops, and supporting day-to-day field operations. During peak agricultural seasons, the efficiency of these movements directly affects productivity and cost. Any limitations on this structure—whether from deterioration, load restrictions, or closure—would force significant detours through longer rural routes that are less suited for heavy equipment and commodity hauling.

This bridge also supports essential local travel, including school transportation routes and access for emergency response services. In rural settings like Salem Township, maintaining dependable crossings is especially important during severe weather events when alternative routes may become difficult or impassable.

Replacing this structure will provide long-term stability for a corridor that is essential to both the agricultural economy and the residents of the Floral area. The investment will improve safety, reduce maintenance concerns, and ensure that this portion of Salem Township remains reliably connected to the broader transportation network.

For these reasons, Salem Township respectfully supports this application and encourages favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

With Regards,

Larry Stephens, Clerk
Brian Hall, Trustee
VSE, Treasurer

To the FHWA Bridge Investment Program Rural Infrastructure Review Group,

On behalf of Harvey Township, I am writing to formally express support for the Cowley County and Butler County joint application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Harvey Township is served by a predominantly rural transportation network where township roads function as the primary means of connecting agricultural operations, residences, and regional highway systems. Within this environment, bridge structures are essential for maintaining continuous travel routes across waterways and drainage channels, particularly in areas where alternate crossings are limited or nonexistent.

The structure identified as OS 144, located on 275th Road south of 281st Road, is an important component of this network. It provides a key rural connection used regularly by agricultural traffic, including grain hauling, livestock transport, and movement of farm equipment, as well as by township residents traveling for work, school, and essential services.

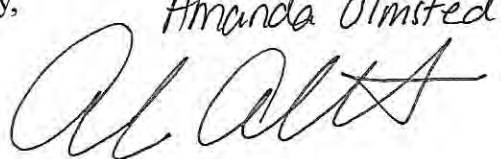
Because of the rural layout of Harvey Township, detours around this location would require significant additional travel over gravel routes that are less efficient for heavy agricultural loads and more vulnerable to weather-related disruptions. During peak agricultural seasons, maintaining reliable access across this corridor is essential for timely field operations and commodity movement.

This crossing also supports access for school transportation routes and emergency services operating within the township. Dependable infrastructure is necessary to ensure that students can be transported safely and that emergency responders can reach all areas of the township without delay, even during adverse weather conditions or seasonal flooding events.

The proposed replacement of OS 144 will improve long-term safety, reliability, and efficiency within Harvey Township's transportation system. It will strengthen connectivity along a key rural corridor while reducing ongoing maintenance concerns associated with aging infrastructure.

Harvey Township appreciates the opportunity to provide this support and respectfully submits this letter in favor of funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program. This investment represents a practical and lasting improvement to the transportation system relied upon by both agricultural producers and township residents.

Respectfully,

Amanda Olmsted


Harvey Township Clerk



June 17, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Kansas Contractors Association, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

KCA represents more than 230 heavy construction companies and suppliers across the state, with many of our members concentrated in the Butler and Cowley County area. Collectively, our members employ more than 43,000 men and women who rely on these roads and bridges to transport goods and equipment to jobsites throughout the region.

Many of the bridges included in this application are located on routes used by commercial vehicles, agricultural traffic, and construction equipment. As these structures continue to age, load restrictions and potential closures create significant challenges that increase travel times, fuel consumption, operating costs, and equipment wear. Detours caused by restricted or deteriorating bridges reduce productivity and place additional burdens on local businesses.

For companies that utilize heavy trucks, specialized equipment, and agricultural machinery, dependable bridge infrastructure is critical. Many of the vehicles and pieces of equipment used by our members approach or exceed the load limits of aging structures, making bridge replacements necessary to maintain safe and efficient operations.

The proposed bridge replacements will improve safety, strengthen freight mobility, and provide dependable transportation routes that support economic growth throughout the region. Investing in these bridges today will help ensure that members like ours can continue to operate efficiently, support local jobs, and contribute to the long-term prosperity of Butler and Cowley Counties.

We strongly support this application and respectfully request favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael White", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Michael White
Executive Director

KING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
INCORPORATED
P.O. DRAWER 849
HESSTON, KS 67062

June 19, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

King Construction Company, Inc. is pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler and Cowley Counties' application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

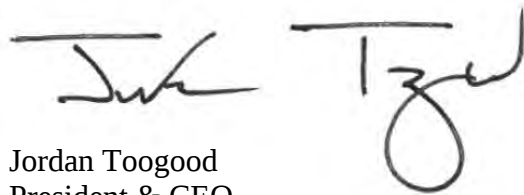
As a Kansas-based contractor specializing in bridge construction and transportation infrastructure, we have had the opportunity to complete numerous projects throughout Butler and Cowley Counties over the years. Those experiences have given us a firsthand appreciation for the importance these transportation networks have on the communities they serve.

In rural Kansas, bridges are much more than structures that carry traffic from one side to another. They connect families to schools, farmers to local cooperatives and grain facilities, businesses to customers, and emergency responders to the people who depend on them. When these routes become restricted or closed due to aging infrastructure, the effects are felt throughout the entire region.

Many of the bridges included in this application have served their communities for generations and have reached a point where replacement is the most practical and responsible long-term solution. Investing in these improvements today will strengthen regional connectivity, improve public safety, and provide dependable transportation routes that support agriculture, commerce, and future economic growth.

King Construction strongly supports Butler and Cowley Counties' efforts to secure funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and respectfully encourages favorable consideration of this application. We appreciate the leadership both counties have demonstrated in proactively addressing these infrastructure needs and look forward to seeing these important improvements move forward.

Sincerely,
King Construction Company, Inc.



Jordan Toogood
President & CEO





Dondlinger
CONSTRUCTION

2656 S. Sheridan, Wichita, Kansas 67217
P.O. Box 398, Wichita, Kansas 67201-0398
Phone: 316-945-0555 Fax: 316-945-9009
www.dondlinger.biz

June 18, 2026

Kirkham Michael
Attn: Mr. John Riggs
202 N. Main
Cheney, Kansas 67025

Ref: Cowley and Butler Bridge Bundle

Dear Mr. Riggs:

Based on Dondlinger and Sons historical information working with both owners, we believe it is practical to anticipate the construction of 7 to 8 structures of the sizes described per year. One potential concern will be work restrictions that limit the overall duration. For example, if we are prohibited from working over the winter months the time available for construction will be greatly reduced. Without such limitations, the schedule is very achievable.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,
Dondlinger and Sons Construction Co., Inc.

Matt Inlow
Project Manager



To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of McPherson Concrete Companies, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Our company relies on the roads and bridges throughout Butler and Cowley Counties to transport employees, equipment, materials, agricultural products, and freight safely and efficiently. Reliable transportation infrastructure is essential to our ability to serve customers, maintain operations, and contribute to the local economy.

Many of the bridges included in this application are located on routes used by commercial vehicles, agricultural traffic, and construction equipment. As these structures continue to age, load restrictions and potential closures create significant challenges that increase travel times, fuel consumption, operating costs, and equipment wear. Detours caused by restricted or deteriorating bridges reduce productivity and place additional burdens on local businesses.

For companies that utilize heavy trucks, specialized equipment, and agricultural machinery, dependable bridge infrastructure is critical. Many of our vehicles and pieces of equipment approach or exceed the load limits of aging structures, making bridge replacements necessary to maintain safe and efficient operations. Reliable transportation routes allow businesses to move products, materials, and equipment without unnecessary delays or costly detours.

The proposed bridge replacements will improve safety, strengthen freight mobility, and provide dependable transportation routes that support economic growth throughout the region. Investing in these bridges today will help ensure that businesses like ours can continue to operate efficiently, support local jobs, and contribute to the long-term prosperity of Butler and Cowley Counties.

We strongly support this application and respectfully request favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Herlocker', is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Herlocker, P.E.
Vice President Products Group
McPherson Concrete Companies



6/17/26

Kirkham Michael Engineers

Re: Cowley and Butler Bridge Bundle

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support of the Cowley and Butler Bridge bundle project that Kirkham and Michael is proposing. They have provided me with a list and description of the proposed bridge projects. After reviewing the 38 proposed structures I can say with confidence that Reece Construction has the capacity and ability to complete all structures in a 5 year time frame. The effort would take more than one crew to accomplish, but beings we have multiple crews that would not be a concern.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Colby Wetter', is written above the printed name.

Colby Wetter

Vice President of Operations

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Reece Construction Co., Inc we understand firsthand how important a dependable transportation network is to the communities and industries that drive our local economy. For that reason, we are pleased to support Butler County and Cowley County in their effort to secure BIP funding for bridge improvements throughout the counties.

Our Company relies on county roads and bridges to reach job sites, deliver products, transport equipment, and serve customers. When transportation routes become unreliable due to aging infrastructure, the effects are felt far beyond the roadway itself. Delays, longer travel distances, and limited access can increase costs and make it more difficult for businesses to operate efficiently.

Many of the bridges identified for replacement have served the region for decades and are reaching a point where continued use becomes increasingly challenging. Modern vehicles, equipment, and freight demands place greater stress on these structures than they were originally designed to accommodate. Investing in improvements now will help avoid future disruptions that could negatively impact commerce, agriculture, emergency services, and daily travel.

Strong infrastructure is one of the foundations of economic development. Businesses are more likely to invest and grow in communities where transportation routes are safe, dependable, and capable of supporting modern transportation needs. These bridge projects represent an investment not only in physical infrastructure but also in the long-term strength and competitiveness of the region.

We believe these improvements will provide lasting benefits to residents, businesses, and future generations throughout Butler and Cowley Counties. We respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this funding request.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Clayton Wetter

V.P. of Construction

Reece Construction Co., Inc



ALAN'S EXCAVATING, INC.
420 LUNGER ROAD
AUGUSTA, KANSAS 67010
PHONE: 316-775-5970

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Alan's Excavating, Inc., I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Our company relies on the roads and bridges throughout Butler and Cowley Counties to transport employees, equipment, materials, agricultural products, and freight safely and efficiently. Reliable transportation infrastructure is essential to our ability to serve customers, maintain operations, and contribute to the local economy.

Many of the bridges included in this application are located on routes used by commercial vehicles, agricultural traffic, and construction equipment. As these structures continue to age, load restrictions and potential closures create significant challenges that increase travel times, fuel consumption, operating costs, and equipment wear. Detours caused by restricted or deteriorating bridges reduce productivity and place additional burdens on local businesses.

For companies that utilize heavy trucks, specialized equipment, and agricultural machinery, dependable bridge infrastructure is critical. Many of our vehicles and pieces of equipment approach or exceed the load limits of aging structures, making bridge replacements necessary to maintain safe and efficient operations. Reliable transportation routes allow businesses to move products, materials, and equipment without unnecessary delays or costly detours.

The proposed bridge replacements will improve safety, strengthen freight mobility, and provide dependable transportation routes that support economic growth throughout the region. Investing in these bridges today will help ensure that businesses like ours can continue to operate efficiently, support local jobs, and contribute to the long-term prosperity of Butler and Cowley Counties.

We strongly support this application and respectfully request favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Hoffman, P.E.
Estimator/PM



TRAVIS J. ROSE, PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE (316) 283-9350

FAX (316) 283-9363

MOBILE (316) 772-3911

E-MAIL: travis@bridgesincorporated.com

June 17, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Bridges Inc., I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Improvement Program (BIP).

Bridges Inc. relies on roads and bridges throughout these counties to transport employees, equipment, materials, agricultural products, and freight safely and efficiently. Reliable transportation infrastructure is essential to our ability to serve customers, maintain operations and contribute to the local economy.

Many of the bridges in this application are located on routes used by commercial, agricultural and construction enterprises. As these structures age, load restrictions and potential closures create significant challenges, increasing travel times, fuel consumption, operating costs and equipment wear. Detours caused by restricted or deteriorating bridges reduce productivity and place additional burdens on local businesses.

For companies that utilize heavy trucks, specialized equipment and agricultural machinery, dependable bridge infrastructure is critical. Many of our vehicles and pieces of equipment approach or exceed the load limits of aging structures, making bridge replacements necessary to maintain safe and efficient operations. Reliable transportation routes allow businesses to move products, material, and equipment without unnecessary delays or costly detours.

The proposed bridge replacements will improve safety, strengthen freight mobility, and provide dependable transportation routes that support economic growth throughout the region. Investing in these bridges today will help ensure that businesses like ours can continue to operate efficiently, support local jobs, and contribute to the long-term prosperity of Butler and Cowley Counties.

We strongly support this application and respectfully request favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
BRIDGES INC.

Travis J. Rose, President



TRAVIS J. ROSE, PRESIDENT
TELEPHONE (316) 283-9350
FAX (316) 283-9363
MOBILE (316) 772-3911
E-MAIL: travis@bridgesincorporated.com

June 17, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

We understand Butler and Cowley Counties in Kansas are preparing an application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Improvement Program (BIP). We have been provided with a list of potential bridge projects included in that application.

As a bridge contractor working in this area for 35 years, Bridges Inc. is familiar with available subcontractors, engineering firms, equipment and material suppliers, and other relevant conditions such as labor demands and weather conditions.

After reviewing the list of potential bridges included in this application, we feel confident that all the bridges can be built within a 5-year timeframe.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
BRIDGES INC.


Travis J. Rose,
President



**18645 SW BISON ROAD
ROSE HILL, KANSAS 67133
316-202-8547 - OFFICE
316-202-5203 - FAX**

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Mid-Kansas Construction Services, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Our company relies on the roads and bridges throughout Butler and Cowley Counties to transport employees, equipment, materials, agricultural products, and freight safely and efficiently. Reliable transportation infrastructure is essential to our ability to serve customers, maintain operations, and contribute to the local economy.

Many of the bridges included in this application are located on routes used by commercial vehicles, agricultural traffic, and construction equipment. As these structures continue to age, load restrictions and potential closures create significant challenges that increase travel times, fuel consumption, operating costs, and equipment wear. Detours caused by restricted or deteriorating bridges reduce productivity and place additional burdens on local businesses.

For companies that utilize heavy trucks, specialized equipment, and agricultural machinery, dependable bridge infrastructure is critical. Many of our vehicles and pieces of equipment approach or exceed the load limits of aging structures, making bridge replacements necessary to maintain safe and efficient operations. Reliable transportation routes allow businesses to move products, materials, and equipment without unnecessary delays or costly detours.

The proposed bridge replacements will improve safety, strengthen freight mobility, and provide dependable transportation routes that support economic growth throughout the region. Investing in these bridges today will help ensure that businesses like ours can continue to operate efficiently, support local jobs, and contribute to the long-term prosperity of Butler and Cowley Counties.

We strongly support this application and respectfully request favorable consideration for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tomi Hoffman", written in dark ink.

Tomi Hoffman
President



Superintendent of Schools

Brett White

whiteb@usd385.org

June 9, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to submit this letter supporting Butler and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The proposed improvements align with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives to modernize infrastructure, improve public safety, and support rural communities. Investment in these bridges will help ensure continued access to reliable transportation routes that are vital to Kansas agriculture, industry, emergency response, and community connectivity.

Butler and Cowley Counties currently maintain numerous aging bridges, many of which were originally constructed in the early 1900s and are now classified in poor condition. The conditions lead to detours that increase travel time, operating costs, and wear on surrounding roadways. The proposed project includes replacing 15 bridges in Cowley County and 23 bridges in Butler County to provide safer and more reliable transportation. Replacing these bridges will improve roadway safety, strengthen freight mobility, reduce long-term maintenance burdens, and preserve critical transportation connections between Butler and Cowley Counties.

The proposed bridge replacement project represents a significant investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south-central Kansas. Rural bridges play a critical role in supporting agriculture, commerce, school transportation, emergency response, and daily travel for residents across our communities. Ensuring these structures remain safe and dependable is essential to maintaining economic stability and quality of life throughout the region.

This project also reflects the partnership and cooperation between two counties working together to address infrastructure needs before emergency closures and ensure the safety of residents and citizens.



Superintendent of Schools

Brett White

whiteb@usd385.org

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects. These projects are integral to the safety, economic vitality, and long-term transportation resiliency of Butler and Cowley Counties.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brett White'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brett White



ARKANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

June 9, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of USD 470 Transportation Services to express our support for the joint Bridge Investment Program application submitted by Cowley County and Butler County.

Providing safe and dependable transportation for students requires a roadway network that can be relied upon every day of the school year. School buses serving USD 470 travel a variety of routes throughout the county, connecting students from both urban and rural areas to their educational opportunities. The condition of local roads and bridges directly impacts our ability to transport students safely, efficiently, and on schedule.

Many of the bridges included in this application serve as important links within the transportation network used by school buses and district vehicles. As these structures age, the risk of weight restrictions, maintenance concerns, and potential closures increases. Such limitations can create routing challenges, extend travel times for students, and reduce transportation efficiency, particularly in rural areas where alternate routes may be limited.

The proposed bridge replacements will provide long-term benefits for students, families, and school districts by improving the reliability and safety of key transportation corridors. Modern bridge infrastructure will help ensure that students have consistent access to classrooms, extracurricular activities, and educational programs without unnecessary disruptions caused by infrastructure deficiencies.

Beyond daily bus operations, dependable transportation routes are important for school events, academic competitions, athletic programs, and other activities that connect students to opportunities throughout the region. Investing in these bridges today will support the continued growth and success of our communities while enhancing the safety of those who travel them.

USD 470 Transportation Services appreciates the collaborative effort between Cowley County and Butler County to address critical infrastructure needs. We respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application for funding through the FHWA Bridge Investment Program.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Jeff Sampson

USD 470 Director of Transportation



Unified School District 490

124 West Central Avenue • El Dorado, KS 67042

Phone: (316) 322-4800 • **Fax:** (316) 322-4801

Carter Kruger, Assistant Superintendent

www.usd490.org

June 15, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The proposed bridge replacement project represents a significant investment in the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of transportation infrastructure throughout south-central Kansas. Rural bridges play a critical role in supporting agriculture, commerce, school transportation, emergency response, and daily travel for residents across our communities. Ensuring these structures remain safe and dependable is essential to maintaining economic stability and quality of life throughout the region.

Many of the bridges identified within this application were constructed decades ago and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Several structures currently have reduced load postings, creating limitations for freight movement and forcing costly detours for agricultural producers, commercial traffic, emergency services, and the traveling public. Replacing these bridges will improve roadway safety, strengthen freight mobility, reduce long-term maintenance burdens, and preserve critical transportation connections between Butler and Cowley Counties.

This project also reflects a strong example of regional cooperation between two counties working together to proactively address infrastructure needs before emergency closures or failures occur. The partnership between Butler and Cowley Counties demonstrates responsible planning and a shared commitment to improving transportation resilience for the benefit of residents, businesses, and future economic growth.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize infrastructure, improve public safety, and support rural communities. Investment in these bridges will help ensure continued access to reliable transportation routes that are vital to Kansas agriculture, industry, emergency response, and community connectivity.

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects.

Sincerely,

Carter Kruger
Assistant Superintendent



BLUESTEM UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #205

625 Mill Rd. • Leon, KS 67074 • Phone 316-742-3261 • Fax 316-742-9265

Joel Lovesee – Superintendent • Amanda Witty – Clerk • Alecia Burrows – Treasurer

Bluestem Jr/Sr High School

500 Bluestem Drive

Leon, KS 67074

316-742-3281

Becky Sailor – Principal

Kevin Williams – Assistant Principal

Bluestem Elementary School

501 Mill Road

Leon, KS 67074

316-742-3291

Dexter Carpenter – Principal

Steve Oltman – Assistant Principal

June 19, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as the Superintendent of Bluestem USD #205 to strongly support Butler and Cowley Counties' application for the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The proposed bridge replacements directly impact the safety and operational efficiency of our school district. Every day, our multiple rural bus routes transport hundreds of students across these aging structures. Currently, several bridges face reduced load postings and deterioration. These weight restrictions force our buses onto long, costly detours. Replacing these bridges will provide immediate, tangible benefits to our district:

- **Protect Student Safety:** Ensures our buses travel daily over modern, structurally sound bridges.
- **Reduce Commute Times:** Eliminates long detours, keeping students on buses for shorter periods.
- **Lower Operational Costs:** Minimizes extra mileage, saving critical district funds on fuel and vehicle wear.
- **Guarantee Route Reliability:** Prevents sudden emergency closures that disrupt daily school transportation schedules.
-

This project is an excellent example of regional cooperation that supports rural communities. It directly aligns with BIP goals to modernize infrastructure and improve public safety where it matters most—for our children and families.

I respectfully urge your favorable consideration and full funding for this essential bridge project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joel R. Lovesee
Superintendent



USD 206 Remington

110 S. Main, PO Box 243
Whitewater, KS 67154
316.799.2115

Joe Gerber, Superintendent

June 12, 2026

RE: Letter of Support for Butler and Cowley Counties Bridge Investment Program Application

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of USD 206 Remington, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

As a rural school district serving students and families throughout Butler County and beyond, USD 206 relies heavily on a safe and dependable transportation network. Our school buses travel county roads daily to transport students to and from school, extracurricular activities, and educational events. The condition and reliability of local bridges directly impacts the safety of our students, the efficiency of transportation services, and our ability to provide timely access to educational opportunities. Many of the bridges included in this application are critical components of the transportation infrastructure that serves rural residents, agricultural producers, businesses, and public institutions. Aging structures and load-restricted bridges can create significant challenges by forcing detours, increasing travel times, and limiting access for school transportation, emergency response vehicles, and commercial traffic. These challenges are particularly impactful in rural communities where alternative routes may add considerable distance.

The proposed replacement of 23 bridges in Butler County (and more in Cowley County) represents a significant investment in the long-term safety, mobility, and economic vitality of our region. These improvements will strengthen transportation reliability, enhance public safety, support emergency services, and improve access for the agricultural and business sectors that are vital to our local economy. USD 206 strongly supports this collaborative effort between Butler and Cowley Counties and believes the project aligns with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program by addressing aging infrastructure, improving resiliency, and preserving critical transportation connections for rural communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this important funding request. We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for this project and encourage favorable consideration of the application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joe Gerber'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joe Gerber
Superintendent
USD 206 Remington



Rose Hill Schools

Chuck Lambert
Superintendent

Unified School District 394
104 North Rose Hill Road
Rose Hill, Kansas 67133-9785

June 10, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

As Superintendent of Rose Hill Schools (USD #394), I am pleased to provide this letter in strong support of Butler County and Cowley County's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

Rose Hill Schools serves students and families throughout Butler County, and we understand firsthand the importance of safe, reliable transportation infrastructure to the success of our communities. Rural bridges play a vital role in supporting school transportation, agriculture, commerce, emergency response services, and the daily travel needs of residents across south-central Kansas. Maintaining dependable transportation routes is essential to ensuring student safety, community connectivity, and continued economic growth.

The proposed bridge replacement project represents a significant investment in the long-term safety and sustainability of the transportation network serving Butler County and the surrounding region. Many of the bridges identified in this application have served our communities for decades and now face increasing structural and operational challenges due to age and deterioration. Reduced load postings and deteriorating bridge conditions can create detours and transportation delays that affect school bus routes, emergency response times, agricultural operations, and commercial activity.

For Rose Hill Schools, reliable transportation routes are critical. Our school buses travel county roads daily to safely transport students to and from school, activities, and events. Replacing aging bridges will improve roadway safety, reduce transportation disruptions, and help ensure that students, staff, and families can travel efficiently and safely throughout the region.

This project also demonstrates the value of regional cooperation. The partnership between Butler County and Cowley County reflects proactive planning and a shared commitment to addressing infrastructure needs before emergency closures or failures occur. Their collaborative approach will strengthen transportation resilience and provide lasting benefits for residents, businesses, and public institutions throughout both counties.

The proposed improvements align closely with the goals of the FHWA Bridge Investment Program and the broader objectives of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to modernize infrastructure, improve public safety, and support rural communities. Investment in these bridges will help preserve critical transportation connections that support education, agriculture, commerce, emergency services, and community development across south-central Kansas.

I respectfully encourage favorable consideration of this application and strongly support funding for these important bridge improvement projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Lambert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chuck" and last name "Lambert" clearly distinguishable.

Chuck Lambert
Superintendent