CITY OF
WICHITA

Representative Ron Estes
U.S. House of Representatives
2411 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2021

RE: West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion in Wichita, Kansas
Member Designated Project

Dear Representative Estes:

It is with great anticipation that the City of Wichita is submitting the West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion project for consideration for the Member Designated Projects initiative.

This project is the next segment extension in a 35-year, $500 million investment by the City of Wichita to upgrade the Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor from an at-grade arterial street to a freeway thru the Wichita metro area. Wichita is Kansas's largest city, and its metro area is the #2 largest contributor to the State's GDP. This corridor carries the largest volumes of traffic in the metro area, and is a designated, Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) – a testament to the corridor's important role in bringing cereal grains to market and to goods dependent industries in Wichita. Extending the modernized freeway an additional 2.5 miles (111th Street West to 151st Street West) to the west will contribute to Wichita's competitiveness in a global economy. In addition, the West Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor is prime for suburban residential and commercial growth; several developers have recently approached the City of Wichita, indicating they plan to start developing along this segment.

The City of Wichita is proud to sponsor this project, and would expect to allocate its portion of the countywide local sales tax as local match should it be awarded funding, as per local ordinance. We are committed to working with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) to ensure federal funding will be obligated under federal-aid highway requirements. The City of Wichita and the KDOT have partnered on several highway projects in the metro area, and we maintain a strong partnership.

The City of Wichita has more than 15 years experience administering federal aid highway projects. We are a KDOT- certified "Local Public Authority," and have administered federal aid projects on the local system, the state system, and on the national highway system.

Sincerely,

Hope all is well my friend!

Brandon Whipple
Mayor, City of Wichita

Dwight D. Eisenhower State Office Building
700 S.W. Harrison Street
Topeka, KS 66603-3745
Julie L. Lorenz, Secretary

Kansas
Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary

Phone: 785-296-3461
Fax: 785-368-7415
kdot#publicinfo@ks.gov
http://www.ksdot.org
Laura Kelly, Governor

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Ron Estes
U.S. House of Representatives
2411 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: City of Wichita West Kellogg Improvements

Dear Representative Estes:

Thank you for your commitment to transportation and local infrastructure projects in your district. The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) views projects such as the improvements to West Kellogg, 111th Street West to 143rd Street West, as a positive contribution. The project will improve safety and traffic flow and help the economy by providing additional construction jobs, especially to areas hit hard in these challenging times.

We understand that the City of Wichita considers the West Kellogg project "shovel ready" and therefore a contender for federal funding, as it has the potential for local matching funds.

Kansas' 10-year Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program, which we call IKE, was approved by the Kansas Legislature in 2020. The IKE Program statute provides the process for KDOT to develop transportation improvement projects – like the West Kellogg project – for Kansas. This statewide process requires KDOT to score and prioritize larger expansion and modernization projects to maximize limited state funds for transportation improvements. This scoring and prioritization process takes into account economic and engineering factors as well as local input.

We appreciate the initiative by the City of Wichita to develop plans for the project and are supportive of the project; however, because it has not been selected for the IKE Program to date, it is not eligible at this time for state funding, including state matching funds.

We very much appreciate the partnership we have with your office as well as with the City of Wichita and thank you for your service to the people of the 4th district of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Julie L. Lorenz
Secretary of Transportation
Director of Kansas Turnpike Authority

cc: Gary Janzen, Assistant Director of Public Works & Utilities – City Engineer, City of Wichita

Pete Meitzner
Chairman
Commissioner - First District

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

COUNTY COURTHOUSE • SUITE 320 • 525 NORTH MAIN • WICHITA, KANSAS 67203-3759
TELEPHONE (316) 660-9300 • FAX (316) 383-8275
e-mail: pete.meitzner@sedgwick.gov

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Ron Estes
U.S. House of Representatives
2411 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion in Wichita, Kansas
Member Designated Project

Dear Representative Estes,

Sedgwick County wholeheartedly supports expanding West Kellogg/US-54/400 from 111th Street West through the intersection of 119th Street West, in Wichita, Kansas.

This project is the next segment extension in a 35-year, $500 million investment by the City of Wichita and a nearly $25M investment by Sedgwick County to upgrade the Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor from an at-grade arterial street to a freeway thru the Wichita metro area. Wichita is Kansas's largest city, and its metro area is the #2 largest contributor to the State's GDP. This corridor carries the largest volumes of traffic in the metro area, and is a designated, Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) – a testament to the corridor's important role in bringing cereal grains to market and to goods-dependent industries in Wichita. Extending the modernized freeway to the west will contribute to Wichita's competitiveness in a global economy. In addition, the West Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor is prime for suburban residential and commercial growth; several developers have recently approached the City of Wichita, indicating they plan to start developing along this segment.

111th St. West is the currently the west end of the improved section of US-54/400. In order to address traffic flow and safety issues, the signalized intersection at 111th St. West was removed several years ago to try to improve traffic flow on the mainline highway until this project can be constructed. The change has negatively affected several long-standing businesses due to the loss of the full turning movement intersection. Here is a summary of the impacts on two notable business locations:

- Doonan Truck and Equipment (Peterbuilt sales and service) has been located on US-54 for over 35 years. When they established this location, the area would be best described as suburban with direct and manageable access to US-54. After the loss of the 111th St. intersection, trucks leaving for eastbound US-54/400 must head west and cross two lanes of mainline traffic in less than a half mile to make a very tight U-turn at 119th St. West. It is a difficult maneuver for the most experienced truck drivers and creates safety issues on the mainline and at the intersection.

- The Cotillion has been located on US-54 since 1960. This venue has a capacity of 2,000 people. Events attract a majority of their patrons from the urbanized area east of the site and like the trucks leaving Doonan, patrons must head west on mainline US-54 and cross two lanes of traffic to make a U-turn at 119th St. West. While the U-turn movement is easier for passenger vehicles, the volume of vehicles making the movement through mainline traffic and stacking beyond the left turn/U-turn lane after an event is overwhelming.

Please consider designating this project for funding.

Sincerely,

Peter F. Meitzner
Commissioner – First District

City of GODDARD

CITY OF GODDARD

Your Home – Our Community

www.goddardks.gov

P.O. Box 667 • 118 N Main • Goddard, Kansas 67052 • 316-794-2441 • FAX: 316-794-2401

Representative Ron Estes
U.S. House of Representatives
2411 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2021

RE: West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion in Wichita, Kansas
Member Designated Project

Dear Representative Estes,

It is with great pride that the City of Goddard wholeheartedly supports expanding West Kellogg/US-54/400 from 111th Street West to 151st Street West, in Wichita, Kansas.

This project is the next segment extension in a 35-year, $500 million investment by the City of Wichita to upgrade the Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor from an at-grade arterial street to a freeway thru the Wichita metro area. Wichita is Kansas's largest city, and its metro area is the #2 largest contributor to the State's GDP. This corridor carries the largest volumes of traffic in the metro area, and is a designated, Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) – a testament to the corridor's important role in bringing cereal grains to market and to goods-dependent industries in Wichita. Extending the modernized freeway an additional 2.5 miles (111th Street West to 151st Street West) to the west will contribute to Wichita's competitiveness in a global economy. In addition, the West Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor is prime for suburban residential and commercial growth; several developers have recently approached the City of Wichita, indicating they plan to start developing along this segment.

Should the project be selected for funding, we know it's important that construction will be able to start quickly. The majority of the pre-construction work is complete on this project – all of the necessary right of way has been acquired, environmental clearance has been granted, the design is 80% complete, and local governments are willing to provide matching funds, if federal funding is awarded. And, all federal funding requirements have been met during project development.

This project will enhance transportation connectivity between Goddard and west Sedgwick County to the core metro area, and facilitate the flow of traffic and visitors to the City of Goddard's STAR Bond site that is currently under construction and will bring more than a million visitors to the location for baseball, softball, and competitive swimming events.

Sincerely,

Brian W. Silcott
City Administrator

www.wabahome.com
WABA
Wichita Area Builders Association

730 North Main
Wichita, Kansas 67203

316-265-4226
Fax: 316-265-5964

14, April 2021

Representative Ron Estes
U.S. House of Representatives
2411 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion in Wichita, Kansas
Member Designated Project

Dear Representative Estes,

It is with great pride that the Wichita Area Builders Association wholeheartedly supports expanding West Kellogg/US-54/400 from 111th Street West to 151st Street West, in Wichita, Kansas.

This project is the next segment extension in a 35-year, $500 million investment by the City of Wichita to upgrade the Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor from an at-grade arterial street to a freeway thru the Wichita metro area. Wichita is Kansas's largest city, and its metro area is the #2 largest contributor to the State's GDP. This corridor carries the largest volumes of traffic in the metro area, and is a designated, Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) – a testament to the corridor's important role in bringing cereal grains to market and to goods-dependent industries in Wichita. Extending the modernized freeway an additional 2.5 miles (111th Street West to 151st Street West) to the west will contribute to Wichita's competitiveness in a global economy. In addition, the West Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor is prime for suburban residential and commercial growth; several developers have recently approached the City of Wichita, indicating they plan to start developing along this segment.

Should the project be selected for funding, we know it's important that construction will be able to start quickly. The majority of the pre-construction work is complete on this project – all of the necessary right of way has been acquired, environmental clearance has been granted, the design is 80% complete, and local governments are willing to provide matching funds, if federal funding is awarded. And, all federal funding requirements have been met during project development.

We have a very active development committee that is in a constant mode of keeping up with the infrastructure needs of our community and there has been continued dialogue for some time among the members of the committee regarding the benefits of the construction of the project referenced here in it is needed to support continued and contiguous growth. Your support is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Wesley Galyon
President, CEO

House Surface Transportation Authorization
Member Designated Projects Submission Form

1) **Name of the project**
   ANSWER: West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion

2) **Location of project**
   ANSWER:
   Wichita, Kansas
   Kansas 4th Congressional District
   Zip codes 67209 and 67235

3) **Project sponsor**
   ANSWER: City of Wichita

4) **Sponsor Point of Contact**
   ANSWER: Gary Janzen, City of Wichita City Engineer
   (316) 268-4450
   gjanzen@wichita.gov

5) **Project description, including a description of the benefits of the project. In addition, please include a link to additional project information, if available. (Max 1000 characters)**
   ANSWER: This project is the next segment extension in a 35-year, $500 million investment by the City of Wichita to upgrade the Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor from an at-grade arterial street to a freeway thru the Wichita metro area. Wichita is Kansas's largest city, and its metro area is the #2 largest contributor to the State's GDP. This corridor carries the largest volumes of traffic in the metro area, and is a designated, Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) – a testament to the corridor's important role in bringing cereal grains to market and to goods dependent industries in Wichita. Extending the modernized freeway an additional 2.5 miles (111th Street West to 151st Street West) to the west will contribute to Wichita's competitiveness in a global economy. In addition, the West Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor is prime for suburban residential and commercial growth; several developers have recently approached the City of Wichita, indicating they plan to start developing along this segment.

6) **Amount requested**
   a. Note that the requested amount may not exceed the federal share allowable under highway and transit programs, which is typically 80 percent of the project cost.

   ANSWER:$1.8 million

7) **Total project cost**
   ANSWER: $2.25 million

8) **Sources of funding for the non-Member designated share of the cost of the project**
   a. Note that if the requested amount plus the non-federal match does not fully make up the total project cost, the Committee is requiring that projects have funds identified for the project outside of the requested amount. Additional amounts may come from federal funding, such as FHWA formula funding, provided that the total amount of federal funding does not exceed the allowable federal cost share.

   ANSWER: If awarded federal funding, the City of Wichita will program the required local match.

9) **Project Phase – pick all that apply**
   a. Planning and Environmental Review
   b. Final Design
   c. Right of Way
   d. Capital purchase or lease (including bus purchases)
   e. Construction
   f. Other (max 30 characters)

   ANSWER:

10) **NEPA category of action**
   a. Categorical exclusion
   b. Environmental assessment
   c. Environmental impact statement
   d. Undetermined

   ANSWER:

11) **Status of environmental review**
   a. Pre-review
   b. Categorically excluded
   c. Notice of intent published
   d. FONSI issued
   e. Draft EIS published
   f. Final EIS published
   g. ROD issued
   h. Other (max 30 characters)

   ANSWER:

12) **A description of the process that will be followed to provide an opportunity for public comment on the project (max 1,000 characters)**

   ANSWER: Many opportunities for public comment have been provided for this project to date. As part of the recent Metropolitan Transportation Plan update Regional Priorities discussion, this project was discussed for several months at meetings open to the public, including the MPO Board and Technical Advisory Committee meetings. In addition, it was part of the Public Comment period for the MTP, which was posted on-line for 4 months, and shared with area city land use planning departments, environmental resource agencies, public and private transit agencies, airport operators, motor carriers

associations, and railroad operators. In addition, the City of Wichita will be hosting a project website to share information about the project.

13) **Has the project received federal funding in the past (yes/no)**
ANSWER: No
This project has received $4 million of State funds thru the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) Corridor Management Program to construct frontage roads along the same corridor (119th West to 151st West).

14) **Has the project applied for U.S. DOT discretionary grants in the past (yes/no)**
    a. If so, please list which discretionary grant program and attach the project application.

ANSWER: No

15) **Attach letter(s) of support from the state, local government, or non-federal sponsor**
See the attached letter from the City of Wichita.

16) **Is the project on the state, Tribal, or territorial transportation improvement program (yes/no)**
    a. If so, please provide a link to the applicable document(s) and include the project ID number listed on the STIP.

ANSWER: No

17) **Is the project on the metropolitan transportation improvement program, if applicable (yes/no)**
    a. If so, please provide a link to the applicable document(s) and include the project ID number listed on the TIP.
    b. If the project is in a non-metropolitan area, please note that the question is not applicable

ANSWER: Yes, Project Number: 40-127
Link to MTP Project Listing: https://2aea947c-fa8a-4065-8aa7-7412c9bc0bd4.filesusr.com/ugd/bbf89d_2f704f12aa3c49c1976f89c5f6357df0.pdf

18) **If funding is provided for this project, can it be added to the STIP/TIP in a reasonable timeframe (yes/no)**
    a. If the answer is yes, the Committee requests a letter from the agency indicating this is the case.

ANSWER: Yes. See attached letters from the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and from the Kansas Department of Transportation.

19) **Documentation from relevant federal agency that the project is eligible for funding under title 23 (Highways) or chapter 53 of title 49 (Public Transit) if the project is not on a STIP or TIP.**
See the attached letter from the Kansas Department of Transportation.

20) If the project is not included on the STIP/TIP, is the project on a regional or statewide long-range transportation plan (yes/no)

ANSWER: Yes

- It is in the current regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), on the Fiscally Constrained List (page 8, project ID #40-127) and also on the Major Regional Priorities list (page 20).
- Link to MTP Project Listing: https://2aea947c-fa8a-4065-8aa7-7412c9bc0bd4.filesusr.com/ugd/bbf89d_2f704f12aa3c49c1976f89c5f6357df0.pdf

April 9, 2021

Mr. Gary Janzen, City Engineer/Assistant Public Works Director
City of Wichita
455 North Main St.
Wichita, Kansas 67202

RE: West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion, 111th St West to 151st St West TIP Amendment

Mr. Janzen,

On behalf of the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO), this letter is to support the project West Kellogg/US-54/400 Expansion. This project is identified in WAMPO's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan as a Major Regional Priority.

This letter serves as notice that the referenced project can be added to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in a reasonable timeframe, should it be provided federal funding. We open the TIP to amendments on a quarterly basis; the amendment schedule is posted at, https://www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program. Soon after approval by the WAMPO Transportation Policy Body (TPB), the approved TIP Amendment is sent to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) to be incorporated into the next Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Amendment, which is then sent to the U.S. Department of Transportation for final approval. The current TIP Amendment "Call for Changes" period opened on April 5th and closes on April 16th; the next one is scheduled to open in early June 2021.

In addition to the scheduled quarterly amendments, WAMPO provides opportunities for unscheduled Amendments when the need arises. Should the West Kellogg Expansion project be awarded federal funding, WAMPO would be glad to carry out an unscheduled amendment process to ensure it is added to the TIP expeditiously.

Sincerely,

Chad Parasa, PE, PTOE
Director
Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Dwight D. Eisenhower State Office Building
700 S.W. Harrison Street
Topeka, KS 66603-3745
Julie L. Lorenz, Secretary
Michael J. Moriarty, Chief

Kansas
Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Planning

Phone: 785-296-3841
Fax: 785-296-8168
kdot#publicinfo@ks.gov
http://www.ksdot.org
Laura Kelly, Governor

April 15, 2021

Richard E. Backlund, AICP
Division Administrator
FHWA – Kansas Division
6111 SW 29th Street, Suite 100
Topeka, KS 66614

Dear Mr. Backlund:

The City of Wichita is preparing a project request form for the expansion of West Kellogg (US-54), to be considered in the upcoming federal transportation bill re-authorization.

In accordance with the guidelines outlined in the Member Project Designation Instruction Booklet regarding Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) inclusion and project eligibility, KDOT, via this letter, is providing supporting documentation for the project. This letter addresses both question 22a and 22b within the aforementioned booklet.

(22a) Can the project be added to the TIP/STIP in a reasonable time?

Yes, the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) and KDOT have an established process that offers the ability to amend both the TIP and STIP in a reasonable amount of time. There are two remaining opportunities in FFY21 to amend both work products. In FFY22 and each following year WAMPO and KDOT will provide eight opportunities to amend the work products and request approval from FHWA. If funds were provided for this project, KDOT and WAMPO are prepared to coordinate with the City of Wichita to amend the appropriate documents.

(22b) Documentation from relevant federal agency that the project is eligible under title 23.

KDOT, while not a federal agency, has deemed the proposed project on US-54 eligible for funding under title 23. As a reconstruction project on the National Highway System, it would qualify for this funding source. The project, as outlined, would be eligible for NHPP, STBG, and HSIP program funding. Given its eligibility for these programs, it is an eligible project for funding through re-authorization based on issued guidance.

WAMPO and KDOT will seek FHWA-KS approval of this project through a future TIP/STIP amendment.

Please contact me with any questions via email (Michael.Moriarty@ks.gov).

Sincerely,

Michael Moriarty
Chief of Transportation Planning

Cc: Lindsey Douglas; Deputy Secretary of Transportation
Calvin E. Reed, PE; Director, Division of Engineering and Design
Gary Janzen, PE; City Engineer, City of Wichita

West Kellogg
US-54/400 Expansion, 111th St West to 151st St West

Highlights

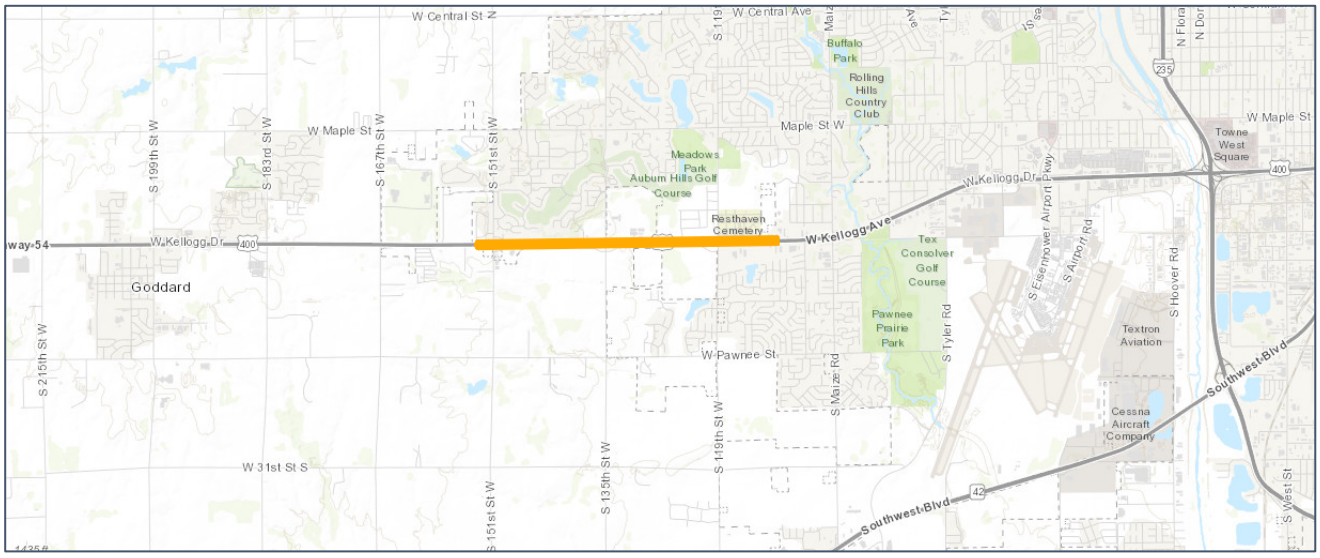
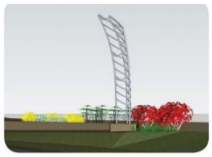
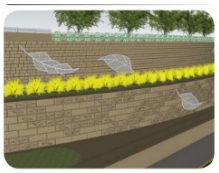
- This project is the next segment extension in a 35-year, $500 million investment by the City of Wichita to upgrade the Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor from an at-grade arterial street to a freeway thru the Wichita metro area.
- Wichita is Kansas's largest city, and its metro area is the #2 largest contributor to the State's GDP.
- The Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor carries the largest volumes of traffic in the metro area, and is a designated, Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) - a testament to the corridor's important role in bringing cereal grains to market and goods dependent industries in Wichita.
- Extending the modernized freeway an additional 2.5 miles west from 111th Street West to 151st Street West will contribute to Wichita's competitiveness in a global economy.
- The West Kellogg/US-54/400 corridor is prime for suburban residential and commercial growth.
- Grade separated interchanges are designed for 119th Street West and 135th Street West.
- The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has committed a letter of support.
- Letters of support are being requested from Sedgwick County, the City of Goddard, the Wichita Chamber of Commerce South Central Kansas Transportation Coalition, and Wichita Area Builders Association.
- It's (almost!) Shovel Ready

West Kellogg
US-54/400 Expansion, 111th St West to 151st St West

It's (almost!) Shovel Ready

- Remaining pre-construction costs total $2.25 million
- Frontage roads along this corridor were recently completed (in 2015) with funding provided by the KDOT (thru its Corridor Management program) and the City of Wichita
- All of the necessary right of way has been acquired
- Environmental clearance has been granted
- The engineering design is 80% completed
- Federal funding requirements have been met during project development

Project Website

Interchange Design Concept

(Must use Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome to open.)