

**CITY OF BARNSDALL  
BARNSDALL, OKLAHOMA 74002**

Russell Hayman, Mayor  
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July 9, 2018

Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The City of Barnsdall supports the Osage Nation's leadership in continuing the Osage Prairie Trail from Skiatook, through Barnsdall and terminating at Pawhuska.


Barnsdall, population 1,316 is an incorporated rural community in eastern Osage County. Our town is located approximately 16 miles southeast of Pawhuska and 40 miles north of Tulsa on Hwy 11.

As a rural community, we would greatly benefit from the Osage Prairie Trail, a multi-use path passing through our town. Highway 11 is the main artery that runs through the center of our downtown and connects houses on the outskirts of town to schools, Dollar General and jobs. This two-lane highway is dangerous for our residents who, out of necessity, have to walk or ride a bicycle on them. The Osage Prairie trail would increase transportation safety for our town by separating pedestrians and people on bikes from fast moving vehicles.

We are also fully supportive of the Osage Nation's plan to use these grant funds to plan for fiber optic cables for broadband. As a rural community, most of our residents do not have broadband. Broadband access can help our students save up to \$600.00 annually by using materials from the internet instead of purchasing hard copies, and 79% of Americans search for jobs online. Barnsdall does have a library with internet access, but the hours are limited.

Again, the City of Barnsdall would like to reiterate our support for the Osage Nation's planning grant application to continue the Osage Prairie Trail. Barnsdall sees this trail as a safe transportation option, economic generator, a form of recreation for our citizens and an innovative method to expand technology to our town.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russell B. Hayman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Russell Hayman  
Mayor, City of Barnsdall