

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

House Transportation Committee

HB 2588

February 18, 2020

Chairman Proehl and members of the committee. As Chairman of the Sedgwick County Commission, I would like to submit written testimony on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners in support of HB 2588 and the FORWARD transportation program. This bill addresses what we believe are significant infrastructure needs for Sedgwick County and could potentially help with some of our critical transportation projects. One such project of importance to the citizens of Sedgwick County includes the North Junction project to address the bottleneck at the intersection of I-135/I235/Highway 254. In addition moving forward with the Northwest by-pass is another project of importance to the County.

The County Commission adopted a legislative platform for 2020 that included joining our partners, the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and the City of Wichita, on legislative issues of mutual importance to our region. Transportation initiatives such as HB 2588 and the FORWARD transportation program is one such joint initiative that we share with our partners. This bill will assist Sedgwick County, the City of Wichita and the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce with economic development in our region to the benefit of all of our citizens.

In summary, the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County are very supportive of HB 2588 and ask that this committee move this bill forward to address our critical transportation needs.

Pete Meitzner, Chairman

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