BIG HORN COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 11, 2025

To whom it may concern:

The Big Horn County Commissioners are writing to express our strong support for the Crow Nation's request for funding under the 2025 RAISE program for the BIA 91 Highway Reconstruction project, a vital infrastructure initiative that will greatly enhance the safety, mobility, and connectivity of the communities of Pryor and St. Xavier.

BIA 91 serves as a major collector highway for rural communities in Big Horn County, Montana, and its current condition poses significant challenges. While most sections are fair, there are stretches where the road is deteriorating, including potholes, rutting, low points, and the lack of necessary guardrails and signage. These road conditions affect daily commuters, emergency responders, and local agricultural producers who rely on this corridor.

The proposed project will not only rehabilitate and reconstruct the roadway to address these safety concerns but also introduce critical features such as guardrails, shoulder rumble strips, retroreflective pavement markings, improved culverts, and the flattening of curves to meet modern design standards. These improvements will significantly enhance safety, reduce travel times, and reconnect the communities of Pryor and St. Xavier to each other and to essential services, including healthcare, education, and emergency response.

The Big Horn County Commissioners fully support this initiative and believe it is an essential investment in the future of our rural communities. We encourage the approval of the $25 million funding request and stand ready to collaborate with the Crow Nation, the Montana Department of Transportation, and other stakeholders in advancing this project.

We are confident that this project will significantly improve the lives of those living in our community and help us build a safer, more connected, and prosperous region for years to come.

Sincerely

Lawrence Big Hair
Presiding Officer

George Real Bird III
Member

Larry Vandersloot
Member

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