# COVID-19 Transportation Funding Impact Update

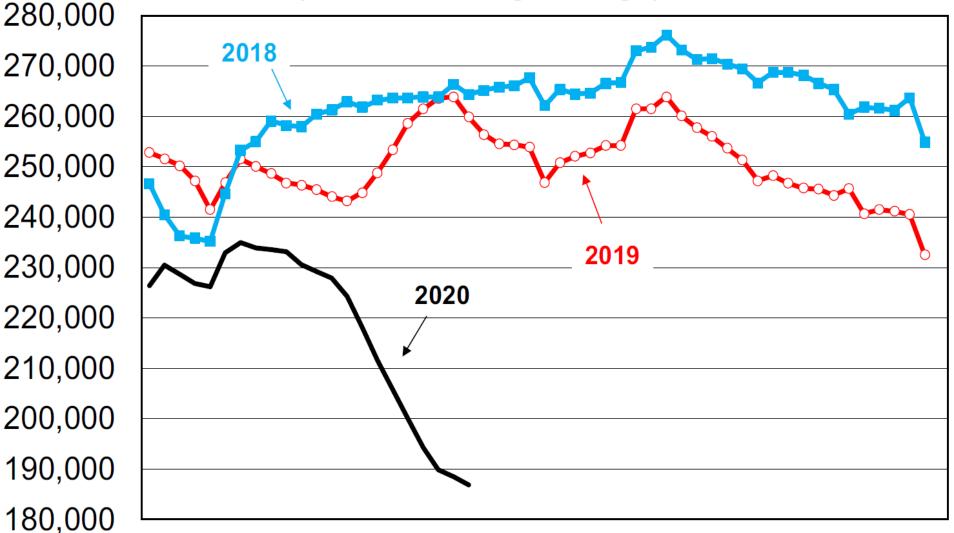
Transportation Commission Workshop

June 8, 2020

### Update

- Travel trends
  - US total rail carloads
  - Commercial air service passenger enplanements
  - Vehicular traffic
- Funding impacts
  - Aviation Improvement Program
  - Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF)
  - State Road Use Tax Fund
- Federal funding update
- State variable tax rate

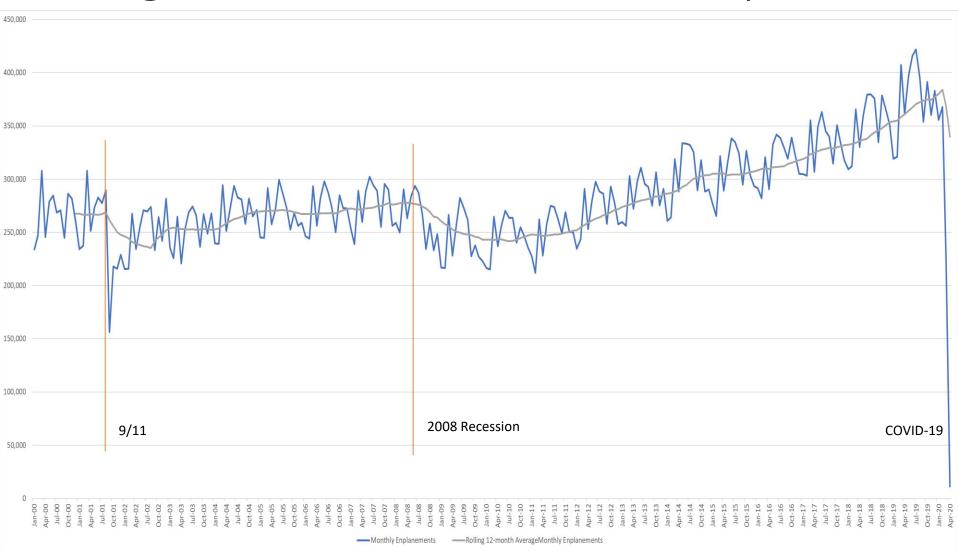
# U.S. Total Rail Carloads (6-week moving average)



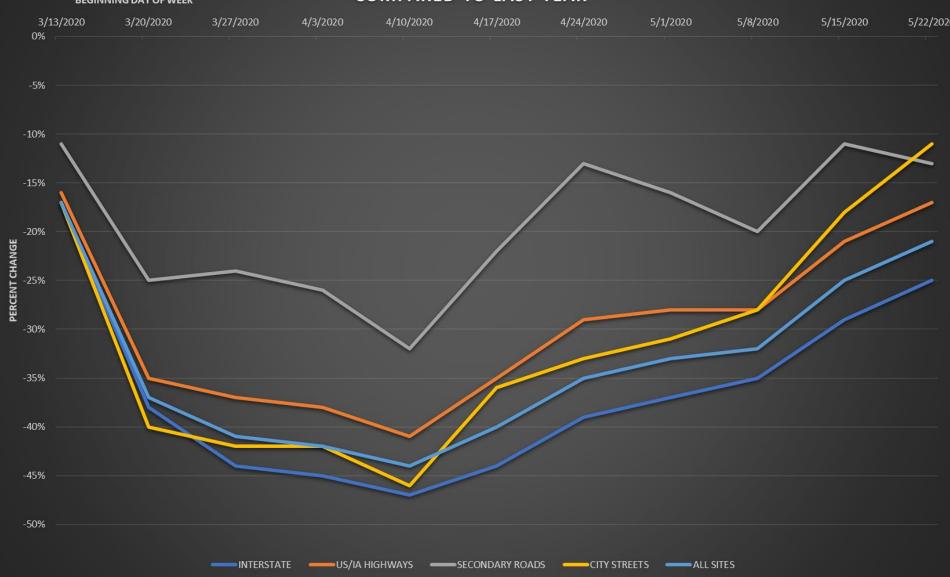
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Data are 6-week moving average originations, do not include intermodal, and do not include the U.S. operations of CN, CP, and GMXT. Source: AAR *Rail Time Indicators* 

# Passenger Enplanements at Iowa's Eight Commercial Service Airports



# WEEKLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN TRAFFIC BEGINNING DAY OF WEEK COMPARED TO LAST YEAR /13/2020 3/20/2020 3/27/2020 4/3/2020 4/10/2020 4/17/2020 4/24/2020 5/1/20



### Aviation Improvement Program

- Funding sources
  - Aviation fuel taxes: \$2.23 m (FY 21 estimate, pre-COVID-19)
  - Aircraft registration fees: \$1.62 m (FY 21 est., pre-COVID-19)
- Fuel tax revenues are likely down significantly
- Currently assessing impacts

# Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF)

- RIIF revenue comes from gambling taxes
- Legislative appropriations from RIIF support:
  - State Recreational Trails
  - Commercial Service Aviation Vertical Infrastructure
  - General Aviation Vertical Infrastructure
  - Public Transit Infrastructure Grant
  - Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Program
- FY 2020 and FY 2021 RIIF revenue impacted by casino closures and reduced sports wagering
- Expect legislative FY 2021 appropriations very soon

#### Road Use Tax Fund

- Funding sources
  - Fuel tax revenue down with reduced travel
  - Fee for New Registration revenue down with reduced vehicle sales
  - Annual vehicle registration revenue down slightly
- Initial estimate was 25 percent reduction (\$35 m per month)

## Road Use Tax Fund (cont.)

- Revised estimates
  - June allocation of RUTF (est.): -\$25 million
    - Generally reflective of April collections
  - July allocation of RUTF (est.): -\$1 million
    - Estimate a minor reduction because the COVID-19 impact is offset by a fuel tax deposit timing situation.
  - August allocation of RUTF (est.): -\$30 million
  - September allocation of RUTF (est.): -\$25 million
  - October allocation of RUTF (est.): -\$20 million
  - June through October Impact: -\$100 million

## Federal Funding Update

- No action on a COVID-19 backfill for lost state transportation revenue
- Reauthorization
  - House Democrats released their Proposal INVEST in America Act
  - \$494 b for FY 2021 to FY 2025
  - FY 2021 is generally a FAST Act extension but with additional funding and allowance for 100 percent federal share for COVID-19 impacts
  - FY 2022-2025 have significant program/policy changes

#### State Variable Tax Rate

- Senate File 2403 passed by Senate and House on June 3, 2020.
- Pending Governor review/action
- Shifts the fuel tax incentive to E15 and greater blends
- Requires the use of more accurate ethanol usage reporting to determine fuel tax rates
- Estimate to initially generate an additional \$8 m per year in RUTF

## State Variable Tax Rate (cont.)

- Current tax rates:
  - Ethanol (all ethanol blends): 29.0 cents per gallon (cpg)
  - Unblended gasoline: 30.5 cpg
- New tax rates (if signed into law):
  - E15 blends or greater: 24.0 cpg
  - Unblended gasoline and E10: 30 cpg
- Rates will continue to adjust every July 1 based on the amount of E15 or greater blends that are sold in the previous calendar year.

# Questions?