

## HF 822 Infrastructure Appropriations

House File 822 makes appropriations from various funds including the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF), the tax-exempt bond proceeds Restricted Capitals Fund account of the Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund (RCF), and the Technology Reinvestment Fund to various state agencies, including the DOT. Various sections amend previous Iowa Acts and make changes to prior appropriations.

A detailed fiscal analysis of HF 822, prepared by the Legislative Services Agency, is available at the following link: [HF 822](#).

Several sections of interest to the DOT are discussed below:

### *Division I – Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund*

#### Section 1

Appropriates funds from the RIIF to various state agencies for FY 2010.

- Subsection 1 appropriates funding to the Department of Administrative Services, including: \$3.7 million for distribution to other governmental entities to pay costs associated with the Integrated Information for Iowa (I-3) system; and \$200,000 for a free shuttle service between the capitol complex and downtown Des Moines, with up to \$50,000 of this amount to encourage state employees to use DART transit services.
- Subsection 12 appropriates funding to the DOT, including: \$3 million for capital improvements and related studies for expanding passenger rail services in Iowa; \$3.5 million for acquiring, constructing, and improving recreational, equestrian or snowmobile trails (of which \$1.25 million is allocated for two specific trail projects); \$1.5 million for the Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Fund (of which \$1 million is allocated for the replacement of a railroad bridge over the Cedar River); \$750,000 for infrastructure improvement grants at general aviation airports; and \$1.25 million for the Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Fund.

- Subsection 12 also appropriates \$14.75 million to the DOT to assist local governments to rebuild and repair local roads (50 percent for deposit in the Street Construction Fund of the cities and 50 percent for deposit in the Secondary Road Fund of the counties). The moneys are to be used for construction, reconstruction, repair, and maintenance of city streets or secondary roads. The moneys are to be expended within two years. The DOT shall, in cooperation with the cities and counties, provide a report to the Legislative Service Agency regarding the projects funded by this appropriation by January 15 each year until the projects are completed.

Section 2

Appropriates funds from the RIIF to various state agencies for FY 2011.

- Subsection 6 appropriates funding to the DOT, including \$2 million for the Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Fund.
- Subsection 6 also appropriates \$24.7 million to the DOT to assist local governments to rebuild and repair local roads (50 percent for deposit in the Street Construction Fund of the cities and 50 percent for deposit in the Secondary Road Fund of the counties). The moneys are to be used for construction, reconstruction, repair, and maintenance of city streets or secondary roads. The moneys are to be expended within two years. The DOT shall, in cooperation with the cities and counties, provide a report to the Legislative Service Agency regarding the projects funded by this appropriation by January 15 each year until the projects are completed.

Section 3

Appropriates \$2 million from the RIIF to the DOT for FY 2012 for the Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Fund.

Section 4

Provides that the funds appropriated in Division I remain available for expenditure for the purposes designated until the close of the fiscal year that ends three years after the end of the fiscal year for which the appropriation was made. However, if the project or projects for which the appropriation was made are completed in an earlier fiscal year, unencumbered or unobligated moneys shall revert at the close of the fiscal year in which the project was completed.

*Division V – RCF and RC2 Transfers*

Section 14 Section 14 provides that any unencumbered or unobligated balances of the tax-exempt bond proceeds Restricted Capitals Fund account of the Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund (RCF) and the Endowment for Iowa’s Health Restricted Capitals Fund (RC2) remaining at the close of FY 2010 shall be transferred to DAS for projects related to major repairs or major maintenance for state buildings under the purview of DAS.

*Division VI – Iowa Flood Center*

Section 15 Requires the Board of Regents to establish and maintain an Iowa Flood Center in Iowa City as part of the University of Iowa. The Center is to work cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, the Water Resources Coordinating Council, and other state and federal agencies. Purposes of the Center include developing hydrologic models for physically based flood frequency estimation and flood plain mapping; supporting ongoing flood research; sharing resources and expertise of the Center; and assisting in the development of a workforce in the state knowledgeable regarding flood research, prediction, and mitigation strategies.

*Division VII – Changes to Prior Appropriations*

Section 20 Amends 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1179, section 1, subsection 1, to provide \$183,000 for a free shuttle service between the capitol complex and downtown Des Moines, with up to \$50,000 of this amount to encourage state employees to use DART transit services. The original FY 2009 appropriation was \$170,000.

Section 22 Amends 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1179, section 1, subsection 13, to add notwithstanding language to the FY 2009 RIIF appropriation for the Dubuque depot and platform. The city will use the appropriation for a feasibility and environmental study and preliminary engineering for the platform. The city plans to combine state funding with funds from other sources to build an intermodal facility at the site. *This provision takes effect upon enactment and applies retroactively to July 1, 2008.*

Section 28 Provides that Division VII takes effect upon enactment. In addition, section 22 applies retroactively to July 1, 2008.

*Division VIII – Code and Miscellaneous Changes*

- Section 29 Requires a recipient of moneys from the RIIF for any purpose to report to the state agency to which the moneys are appropriated concerning the status of all projects completed or in progress. The report must be made annually, on or before December 31 of each year, and include a description of the project, the progress of work completed, the total cost of the project, a list of all revenue sources being used to fund the project, the amount of funds expended, the amount of funds obligated, and the date the project was completed or an estimated completion date of the project, where applicable.
- Section 31 Amends Code section 12E.12 to transfer unsecuritized tobacco payments deposited in the Endowment for Iowa's Health Account of the Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund to the RIIF for each fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009. Previously the moneys were transferred to the General Fund to be used for the purposes specified in Code section 12E.3A (Iowa's Health Account). *This section takes effect June 30, 2009.*
- Sections 33 - 36 Establish a River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) program within the Department of Economic Development (DED). A RECAT project is a project that creates or enhances recreational opportunities and community attractions on and near lakes or rivers or river corridors within Iowa cities. The RECAT projects are intended to be primarily vertical infrastructure projects, defined to include recreational trails and water trails. Provision for a variety of transportation choices, including pedestrian traffic, is a criterion to be considered during review of applications by the Vision Iowa program review committee. The Vision Iowa Board is responsible to approve funding applications upon review of recommendations of the program review committee.
- Section 41 Provides that section 31 amending Code section 12E.12 takes effect June 30, 2009.