



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2012

State of Iowa

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates two long-distance trains through Iowa:

- The *California Zephyr* (daily Chicago-Burlington-Osceola-Denver-San Francisco Bay Area)
- The *Southwest Chief* (daily Chicago-Fort Madison-Kansas City-Los Angeles)

During FY12 Amtrak served the following Iowa locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Burlington	7,646
Creston	4,531
Fort Madison	7,003
Mount Pleasant	13,634
Osceola	14,681
Ottumwa	11,674
Total Iowa Station Usage:	59,169 (up 2.2% from FY11)

Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak spent \$1,133,720 on goods and services in Iowa in FY12.

Employment

At the end of FY12, Amtrak employed 5 Iowa residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Iowa were \$408,912 during FY12.

Expansion Planning

The Iowa Department of Transportation was awarded a \$230 million grant from the federal High Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail grant program in 2010 for development of new passenger rail service connecting Iowa City and the Quad Cities (Iowa and Illinois) with Chicago. Amtrak provided staff resources to support the application submitted by the Iowa and Illinois Departments of Transportation. The grant would contribute to the cost of track rehabilitation, establish a new rail-to-rail connection, install a new signal system, finance the acquisition of rolling stock, and support station development. In 2011, Iowa DOT sought from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) permission to proceed with a phased development of service along the corridor. The FRA granted this request, allowing Illinois to

proceed with development of the corridor between Chicago and Moline, Illinois, while Iowa continues to study service feasibility from Moline into Iowa, through Iowa City and Des Moines to Council Bluffs (across from Omaha). Iowa was awarded \$2 million from the FRA for this planning work, for which Amtrak has provided some guidance.

Illinois DOT (IDOT) is proceeding with planning for development of new passenger rail service between Dubuque and Chicago. In 2007, Amtrak delivered the results of a route feasibility study requested by IDOT that predicted ridership of 74,500 annually, on one daily round-trip between Dubuque and Illinois cities to Chicago. Amtrak continues to advise IDOT on implementation of the corridor and to advise the City of Dubuque on development of a passenger station.

Amtrak is a member of both the Iowa Rail Advisory Committee and the Iowa Passenger Rail Advisory Committee. The Passenger Rail Advisory Committee provides feedback on Iowa passenger rail issues.

Station Improvements

Fort Madison: Amtrak is working with the City to relocate its *Southwest Chief* stop from an industrial area in the western part of the city back to the historic downtown station. The City has secured \$3.2 million in grants and commitments from several sources, including Iowa DOT, BNSF Railway, Amtrak, and the regional riverboat commission, to finance the relocation and necessary construction to accommodate the move. The historic Santa Fe depot and adjacent freight house have been elevated above the 500-year flood stage, the depot interior was renovated, and a new ADA-compliant passenger platform is planned. The former Santa Fe depot is very close to the Mississippi River, separated by a park and the railroad.

Osceola: The City constructed new railroad offices for the BNSF Railway, in exchange for the former Burlington Route depot, which is used by Amtrak's *California Zephyr*. The City obtained \$500,000 in transportation grants to use for exterior, parking, platform, fencing, and lighting enhancements to the historic structure. Amtrak is advising the city through the Great American Stations project on best concepts to maximize the utility of the historic structure, including possible retail or government uses. The Jefferson Lines intercity bus service has joined Amtrak at the Osceola station, creating a truly intermodal station. Exterior stabilization and rehabilitation work has been completed. The City was awarded an additional \$88,000 for further interior work and for paving the parking lot.

Burlington: Amtrak donated the cost of paint to the local advocacy group Friends of the Burlington Depot, in their ongoing effort to restore the municipally owned, former Burlington Route depot. Amtrak is restoring the community identifier sign to improve the building's street-facing image. Friends of the Depot has organized volunteer painting days to spruce up the depot, in their quest to return the depot to the center of civic life in town.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN IOWA

