SUMMARY

FY 2020 revenue to the General (GF) and Education Funds (EF) totaled $7.2 billion, a year-over-year (YoY) decline of 4.0%. The 4.0% decline was better than expected. The consensus target was for a decline of 5.3%. The EF growth rate came in at –10.1%, above the –11.6% target, while the GF growth rate came in at 7.4%, above the 6.4% target. Later this month, the Division of Finance will announce year-end figures that adjust for year-end transfers and designations, which will lower the net new reserves available for FY 2021. The Transportation Fund ended FY 2020 at $614 million, or about 0.5% above the target of –1.5%. Although better than expected due to monetary and fiscal stimulus efforts, there are considerable risks on the horizon given the current economic environment.

General Fund

General Fund collections totaled $2.8 billion in FY 2020, representing a YoY growth rate of 7.4%. The 7.4% growth over the prior year is above the adopted consensus target of 6.4%. Buoying the General Fund was stronger than expected sales tax revenue, which came in about 1.3% above target. Federal stimulus efforts likely provided a significant boost to sales tax revenue, the future of which contains considerable uncertainty.

Education Fund

Education Fund collections reached $4.4 billion in FY 2020, representing a YoY decrease of 10.1%. The -10.1% decline was above the adopted target of –11.6%. Most of the decline in Education Fund performance was a result of a shift in individual and corporate income tax payments from April 2020 to July 2020. Looking forward, the FY 2020 revenue surplus does not necessarily mean FY 2021 will have the same result given the heightened uncertainty in the economic outlook.

Transportation Fund

Transportation Fund collections reached $613 million in FY 2020, a rate of -1.0% over the prior year. This is above the consensus target of –1.5%. Overall, the Transportation Fund was supported by continued strength in vehicle registration fees, diesel fuel tax, and miscellaneous other revenue sources. The largest source—gasoline tax—came in slightly below target at $351 million compared to a target of $354 million.