

Union Pacific West Line (UP-W Line) Third Mainline Track Project Western Section West Chicago to Geneva



**Public Open House
September 21, 2017
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

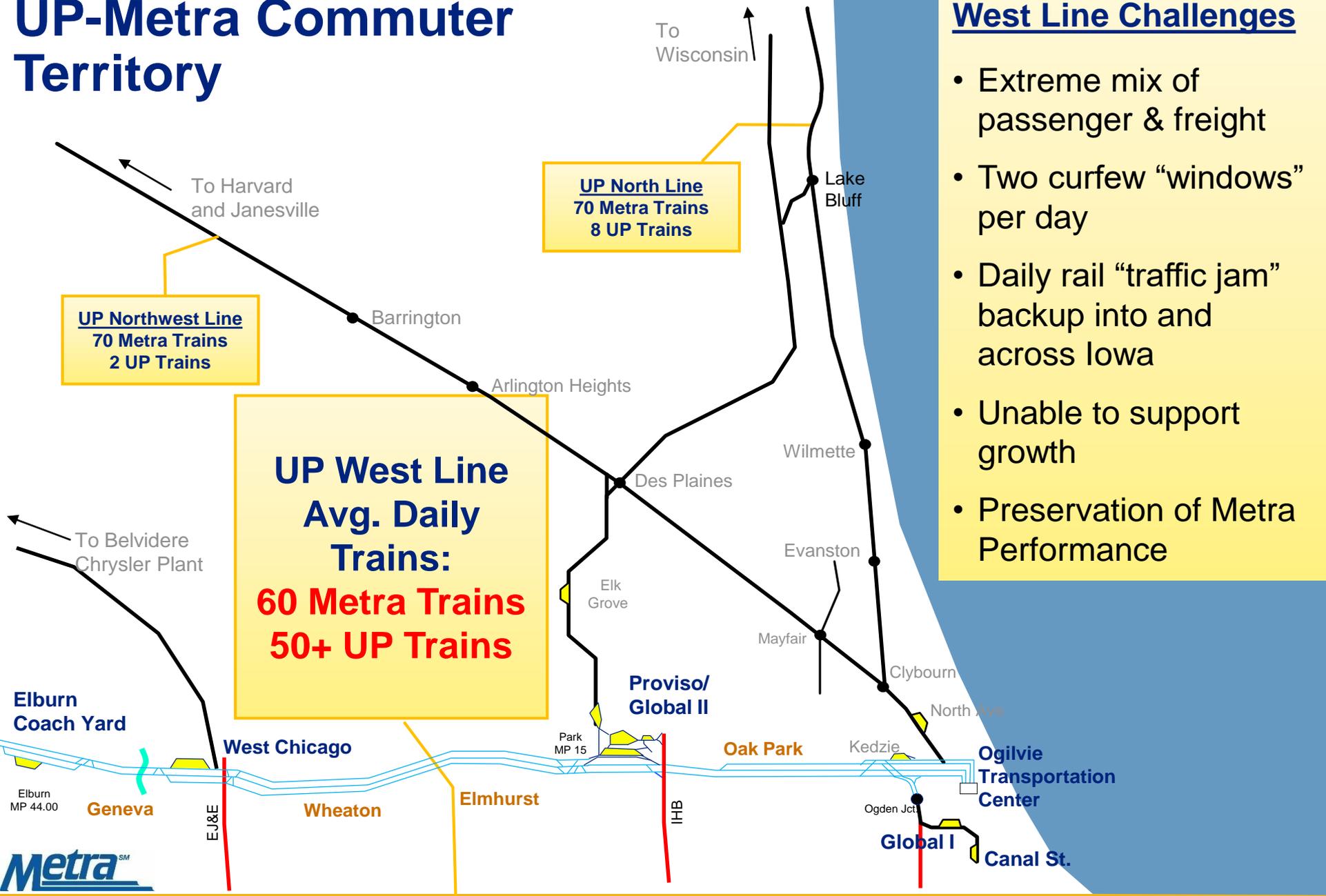


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UP-West Line Background & Project Development Process



UP-Metra Commuter Territory



West Line Challenges

- Extreme mix of passenger & freight
- Two curfew “windows” per day
- Daily rail “traffic jam” backup into and across Iowa
- Unable to support growth
- Preservation of Metra Performance



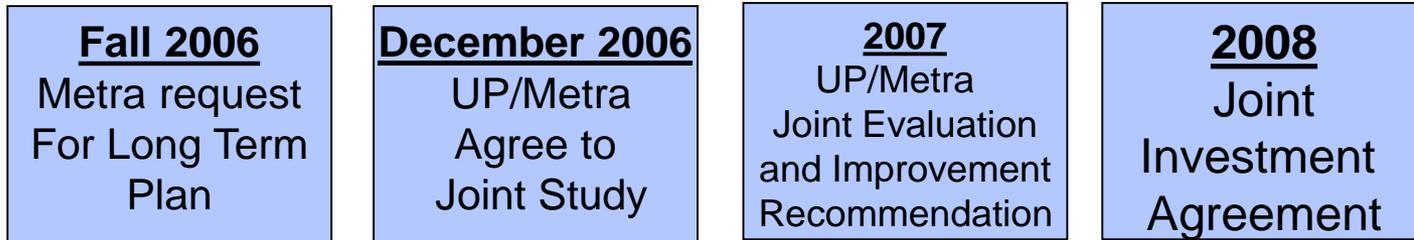
UP-West Line Overall Project

- Metra and UP have been working on a four phase improvement program on the entire UP-W line since 2008 in order to increase safety and reduce congestion
- Program is jointly developed and funded by Metra and UP
- The first 3 phases are complete
- Phase 4 is the addition of a third mainline track in two key sections – Vale interlocking in River Forest to 25th Avenue in Melrose Park; and Kress Road in West Chicago to Peck Road in Geneva

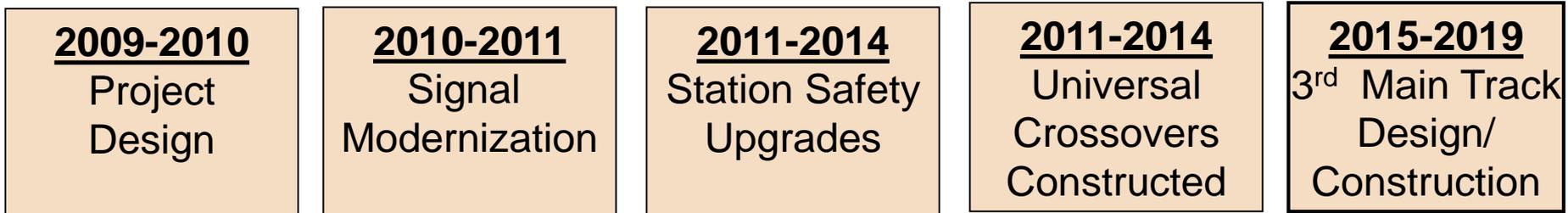


UP-W Line Overall Project Timeline

Planning & Analysis



Implementation



UP-W Line Recently Completed Improvements

UP/Metra have made several improvements across the UP-W Line in recent years

- **Complete Pedestrian Gate Coverage**
 - On road or pedestrian crossings adjacent to platforms
- **End of Platform Diversions**
 - Channel commuter flow away from tracks
 - Eliminate mid platform pedestrian crossings
 - Direct flows behind pedestrian gates
- **“Another Train” Warning System**
 - Alert commuters that a 2nd train is entering station
 - Prevent unsafe behavior
- **Fencing Between Tracks**
 - Extensions beyond platform areas
 - Address flows from parking areas
- **3 New Commuter Grade Separations**



UP-W Third Mainline Includes 2 Projects

Western Section

(Geneva/West Chicago)

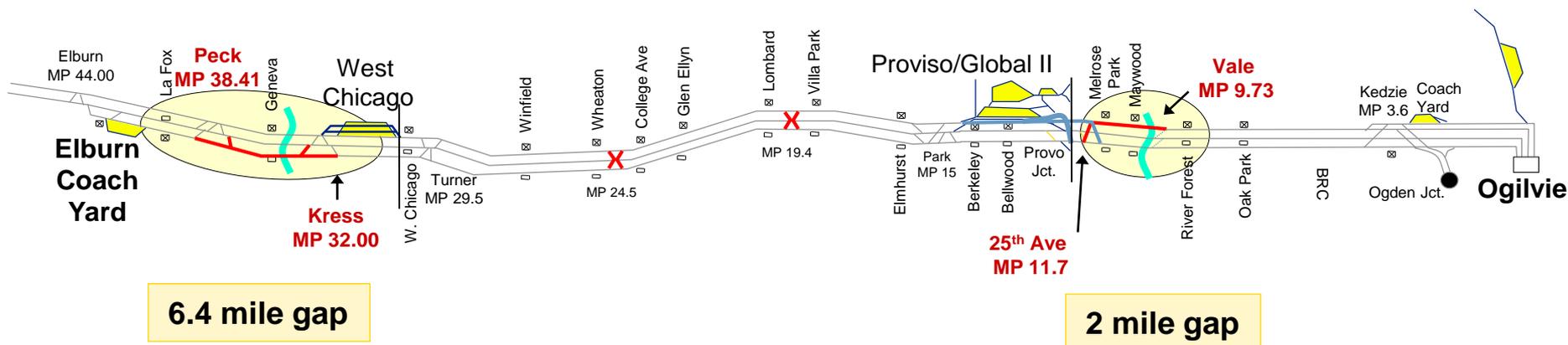
Purpose of Tonight's Open House

Construction Start: 2018

Eastern Section

(Maywood/Melrose Park)

Construction Start: Fall 2017



Addition of third mainline rail will remove these 2 critical bottlenecks

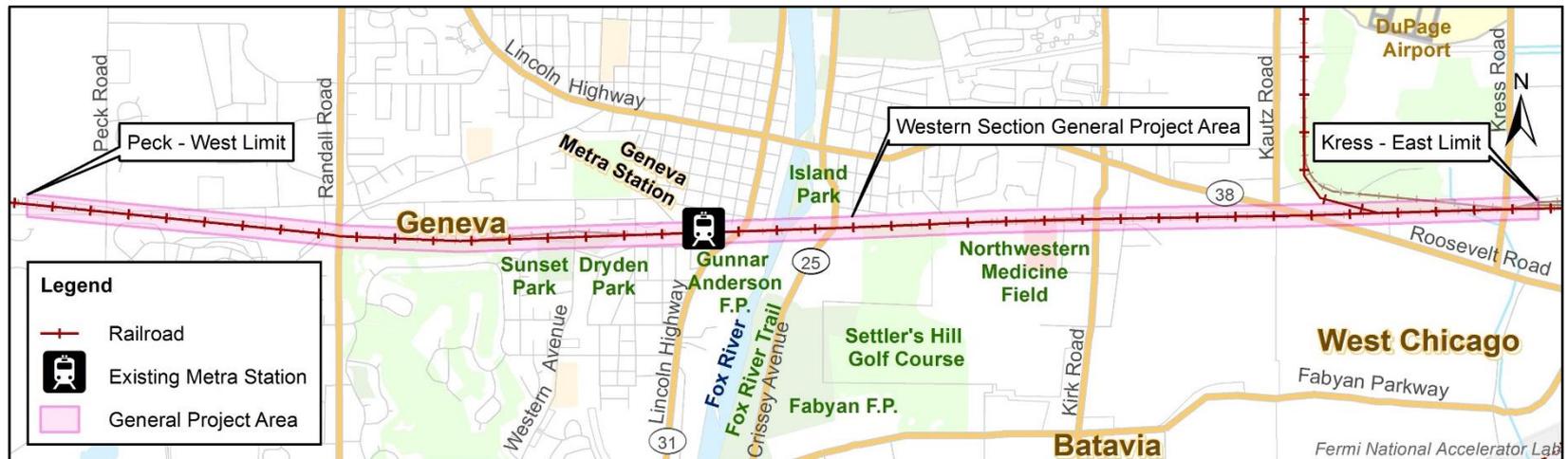
UP-W Third Mainline – Western Section

West Chicago to Geneva



Project Location – Western Section

- Kress Road to Peck Road
- Cities of Geneva and West Chicago



Benefits

- Decrease commuter and freight train congestion
- Decrease commuter delays affecting Metra performance times and schedules
- Reduce motorist wait times at grade crossings
- Preserve Metra performance times
- Eliminate commuter curfews for freight trains
- Decrease the number of idling freight and passenger trains



Key Features

- **Track added on south side of existing tracks**
 - Exception: Roosevelt Road to Crissey Avenue (IL Route 25)
- **Majority of track addition within UP right-of-way (property)**
 - Some temporary easements and permanent right-of-way needed
- **Crossing improvements**
 - IL Route 31 (1st Street), Third Street, Western Avenue
- **Geneva commuter parking lot improvements**
 - Lots 1, 3 and 5
 - No net loss of parking with Third Street Parking Garage addition
- **Addition of new bridge spans on Fox River Bridge**
 - Added to existing bridge substructure

Local/Agency Coordination

Metra and UP have coordinated with local municipalities and federal, regional and local agencies throughout the design process.

- City of Geneva
- City of West Chicago
- Forest Preserve District of Kane County
- Geneva Park District
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Fish and Wildlife Service



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Proposed Construction Detour Routes

Detour Map

- **Road Detours**

- IL Route 31 (anticipated to last 16 weeks), Third Street, Western Avenue
- Staggered closures

- **Parking Lot Closures**

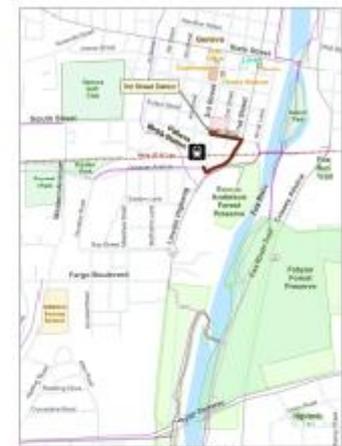
- Lots 1, 3, and 5
- Staggered closures

- **Fox River Trail Access**

- **West Side Access:** Closed on south side of bridge for 12 months; detour via north access point
- **East Side Access:** City emergency vehicle/trail access on north side of Wastewater Treatment Plant will be shifted south



Western Avenue Detour
Estimated Duration: Four to Ten Weeks



3rd Street Detour
Estimated Duration: Four to Ten Weeks



Trail Access Detour
Estimated Duration: Twelve Months



IL Route 31 Detour
Estimated Duration: Sixteen Weeks

See Exhibit Board for Details

Environmental Documentation

- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
 - Analysis of physical and social environment
 - Documented Categorical Exclusion (DCE) for Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
 - FTA approved DCE in July 2017
- **National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)**
 - Area of Potential Effects (APE) identified in November 2016
 - National Register of Historic Places identified:
 - Central Geneva Historic District (listed)
 - Island Park South Bridge (eligible)
 - Weber Farmstead (eligible)
 - No Adverse Effect recommended in the Section 106 Technical Report distributed in April 2017
 - State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with the overall finding in June 2017



Note: FTA is not currently anticipated to provide funding for construction of the UP-W Third Mainline – Western Section.

Environmental Documentation

- **Section 4(f) Resources (Parks & Trails)**

- Minor temporary occupancy adjacent to railroad during construction

- **Geneva Park District**

- Sunset and Dryden Parks

- **Forest Preserve District of Kane County**

- Fox River Trail
 - Trail would remain open during construction. Minor disruptions may occur that would require a flagger.
- Fox River Access Trail (**west** side of river)
 - Access point on south side of bridge closed for approximately 12 months
 - Access point on the north side of the bridge to remain open throughout construction
- Fox River Access Trail (**east** side of river)
 - Access point on south side of the bridge to remain open throughout construction



Real Estate

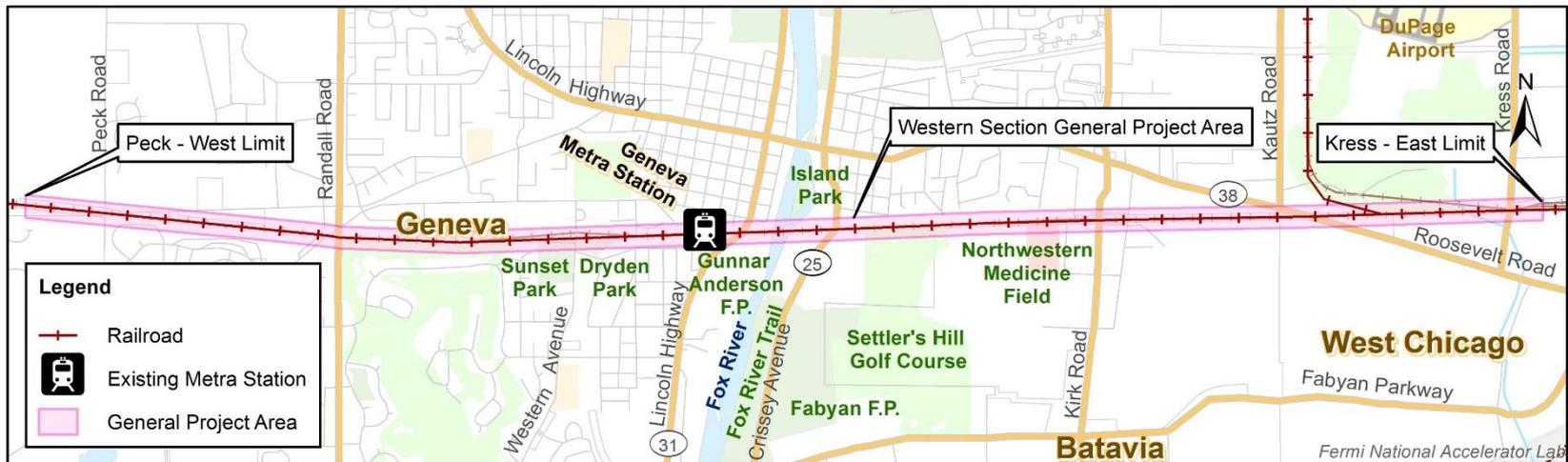
- Efforts have been made to reduce need for real estate acquisition
- Narrow strips of property adjacent to the existing UP right-of-way need to be acquired in parts of the project corridor
- No expected acquisitions of any existing buildings or structures with overall acquisition impacts being minimal
- Project representatives are currently contacting affected property owners to discuss the real estate acquisition process



Note: All acquisitions will comply with the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Act of 1970.

Next Steps & Construction Start

- NEPA environmental clearance granted July 2017
- Expected construction start – summer 2018
- UP/Metra to work with City of Geneva and West Chicago to provide construction updates
- Advance notice of detours and closings
- No anticipated impact to Metra schedules
- Construction anticipated to last 19 months



UP-W Third Mainline – Western Section

- Exhibit boards displayed throughout the room
- Comment form available
- Project staff available to answer questions
- Email: UPWThirdMain@metrarr.com
- Website: www.metro-rail.com/upw-third-main
- NEPA Environmental Document (DCE) available on project website

Thank you for attending!

**Union Pacific West Line (UP-W)
Third Mainline Project - Western Section
Comment Form**

*Please provide your comments below.
(Contact information is optional)*

Name: _____
Organization: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return to project staff or send via mail to:
Metra
Attn: Demetrios Skoutis
547 W. Jackson Blvd. - 13th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60661

Thank you

This presentation will repeat

