



PRESS RELEASE
DATED: OCTOBER 24, 2024

METRA STATION GROUNDBREAKING

The Village of Morton Grove and Metra are proud to announce the groundbreaking for the new Morton Grove Metra Station. The \$4,000,000 project includes the complete reconstruction of the Metra Station, replacing the current building which was built in 1976. The new 1,280-square-foot station will be located just north of the existing station and will include retail space with a walk-up window along with various rider amenities like covered outdoor waiting areas, a heated waiting area that will be open after-hours, a unisex restroom, and accommodations for ticket vending machines throughout. The station is being designed in a Craftsman style, a timeless American architectural style that is reflective of the relaxed and small-knit Morton Grove community.

The new Metra station is expected to be open to the public in Summer 2025 with the demolition of the old station and the overall project to be completed approximately two months thereafter. Project phasing has been designed to maintain uninterrupted Metra service at the station through all phases of construction.

The completed project will include new landscaping and lighting with improved site access, traffic circulation, and visibility surrounding the station building. Ultimately, the new Morton Grove Metra Station will provide a safe, attractive, and pedestrian-friendly train station to better serve existing riders and attract new ones.

The Village of Morton Grove is grateful to have received \$300,000 from Metra for the project. The Village has applied for additional grant funding for the project through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. TIF funds will be used to pay the costs for the project not covered by grants.

The redevelopment of the Metra station is a key component of the Village's efforts to foster a transit supportive environment that will improve the regional image of the community and attract new housing, retail/restaurants, and mixed-use development in the area surrounding the Metra Station. Those efforts have begun to gain momentum: *Metro on Main* by Lexington Homes, an 89-unit townhome development is currently under construction just south of the Metra station and a 36-unit mixed-use development with ground floor commercial space is being planned for the property located immediately west of the Metra station across Lehigh Avenue. The new station is also complemented by the recently completed Gateway Plaza project, a 10,000-square-foot public plaza at Ferris and Lincoln Avenues.

The Metra Station project architect is RM Swanson Architects PC and the general contractor is Efraim Carlson & Son. That same team worked together to construct the Metra station in Libertyville.

Issued by: Charles L. Meyer, Village Administrator
Village of Morton Grove
6101 Capulina Avenue
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053
847-663-3001

###