




## Memorandum

**DATE:** January 16, 2019

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Jim Derwinski   
CEO/Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Systemwide Cost Benefit Analysis of Major Capital Improvements

As part of Metra's ongoing strategic planning process, we undertook a Cost Benefit Analysis Study to develop a comparative analysis of potential system improvements to Metra's existing lines as well as expansion projects. The study was divided into two tiers:

- Tier One: major expansion/enhancement projects on Metra's existing system
- Tier Two: proposed rail line extensions and new rail lines

Attached is the final *Systemwide Cost Benefit Analysis of Major Capital Improvements* report. The study results provide a high level comparison of the potential enhancement and expansion projects, include order-of-magnitude estimates of capital costs, whether they contribute to our state of good repair needs, and ongoing maintenance costs required for each project; more importantly, the analysis reflects uniform and consistent application of models and assumptions.

The results from this analysis do not provide final answers about performance of projects, reflect efficiencies of packaging projects together, include outside stakeholders' input, or reflect cost contributions from partners or other cost sharing opportunities. Likewise, the report does not prioritize the projects, but rather should be used as a guide for future discussion and as a tool staff and others can use to determine the relative cost and benefits of these projects. The results presented are high level, order-of-magnitude estimates that would require additional more detailed studies and stakeholders' input in order to advance any of these projects.

The *Systemwide Cost Benefit Analysis of Major Capital Improvements* report will be posted to the Metra website and shared with CMAP and the RTA as well as other interested parties.

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