Ten Reasons you can Commute with Confidence on Metra

1. The cars have never been cleaner. We spent the spring deep cleaning our more than 1,000 railcars and Metra Electric Highliners with high-pressure power washers, steamers and other disinfectants.

2. We’re committed to keeping them clean and safe. We’ve adopted a new regimen to clean, sanitize, disinfect and inspect all cars at least once a day, with an extra emphasis on disinfecting high-touch areas as frequently as possible, including with new electrostatic disinfecting foggers. Our intention is to maintain the cleanliness we have achieved by deep cleaning, and we want to exceed industry standards for sanitation.

3. Stations are also clean and safe. We are cleaning Metra-maintained stations multiple times a week, paying special attention to disinfecting high-touch surfaces, and we are using extra crews to increase the cleaning and disinfecting of downtown stations. And we have asked the municipalities or other entities that maintain the stations in their communities to do the same.

4. You can breathe freely. Metra railcars are equipped with hospital-grade MERV-13 filters to keep the air clean. In addition, the HVAC system on railcars cleans and replaces the air on cars 15 times an hour.

5. Masks or face coverings are a must for the entirety of the ride on our trains. We are reinforcing that message with plenty of signs and announcements. We need everyone to wear a face covering and help us help keep everyone safe.

6. There’s plenty of room to spread out. We are asking everyone to practice social distancing, and we are similarly reinforcing that message with signs and announcements. Please, no more than one person per two-seater, unless you are travelling with a family member.

7. You can see if trains have been crowded. We’ve launched a ridership dashboard to show how many riders are on our trains to help you make informed decisions about your trip. Find it at metrarail.com/dashboard. We’ll add cars to trains or trains to schedules to maintain that space as long as we can.

8. We’ll wait in stations longer. We want everyone to stay in their seats and not crowd the aisles and vestibules before getting off at your station. So please stay seated until your stop – and we’ll give you plenty of time to get off.

9. We’ve installed two new touchless hand sanitizer dispensers in every car. (Our bathrooms already had dispensers.)

10. You can ride touch-free with the Ventra app. With the app, you can buy and display tickets, eliminating close interactions with crews to keep everyone safer.