



# ILLINOIS HIGH-SPEED RAIL

COMMISSION



Illinois Department  
of Transportation



IDOT Headquarters:  
Springfield & Chicago  
January 26, 2026

[www.idothsr.org](http://www.idothsr.org)

# AGENDA



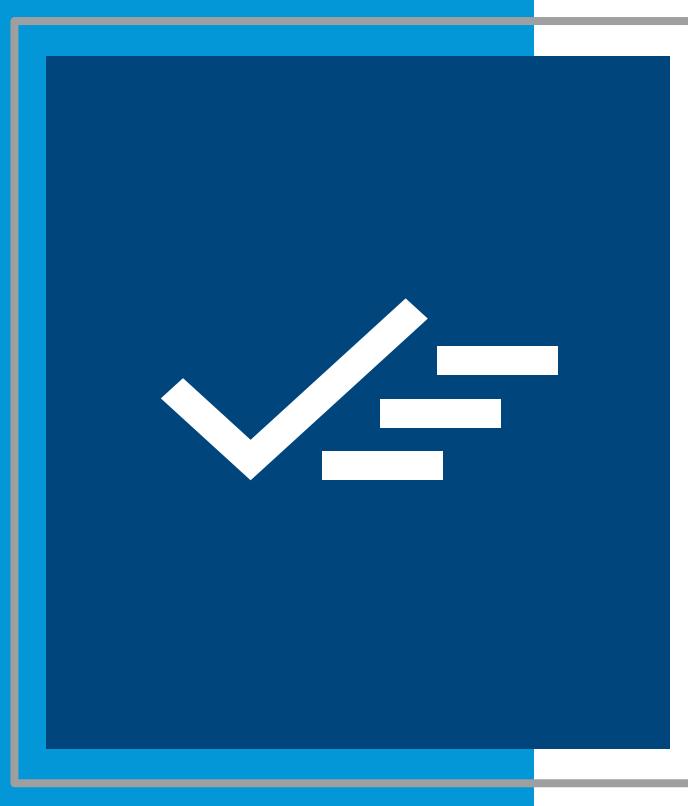
<b>10:30 AM:</b>	 Welcome & Introduction (Chair Derwinski) Roll Call (Morreale Communications)	<b>11:10 AM:</b>	 New Business
<b>10:35 AM:</b>	 Minutes Approval from prior Commission Meeting (Chair Derwinski)	<b>11:20 AM:</b>	 Public Comment
<b>10:40 AM:</b>	 Technical Assistance & Support Update (Quandel Consultants)	<b>11:30 AM:</b>	 Commission Meeting Adjourns

# MEETING MINUTES



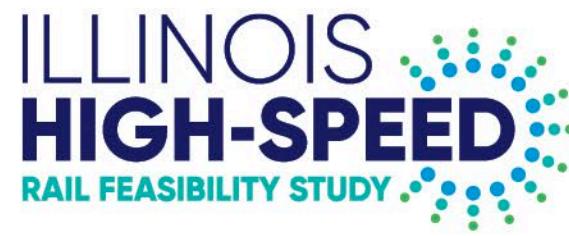
- Meeting minutes from the **prior** Commission meeting were circulated prior to today's meeting.
- Are there any requested changes?

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT UPDATE



## Technical Assistance and Support Update

Presented by the Quandel Consulting Team



*Strengthening our State. Connecting the Region.*



# Illinois High-Speed Rail Commission Meeting

Monday, January 26, 2026

# Agenda

- Update on Feasibility Study
- Market Analysis



# Update on Feasibility Study



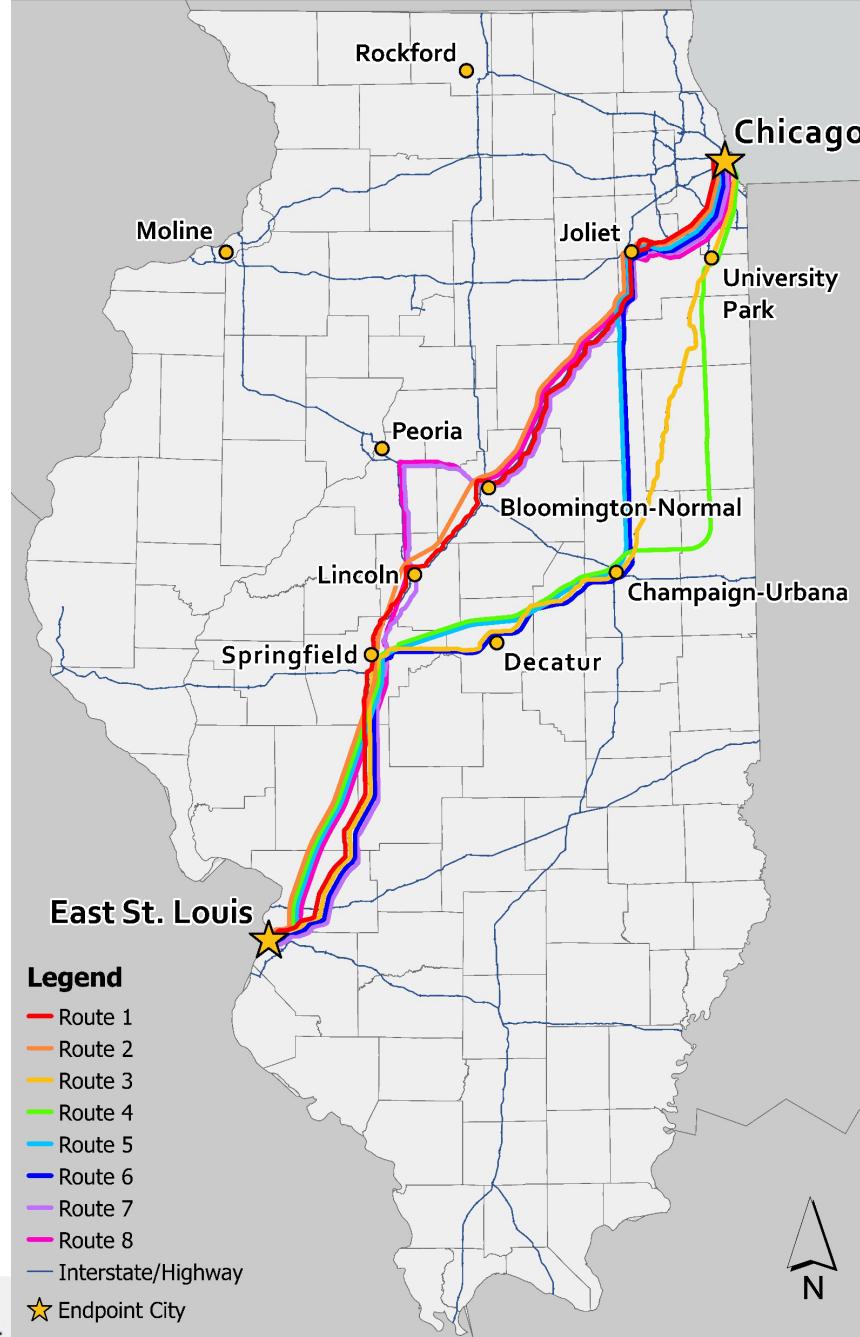
# Feasibility-Level Costs



# Standard Cost Categories for Feasibility-Level Cost Estimates

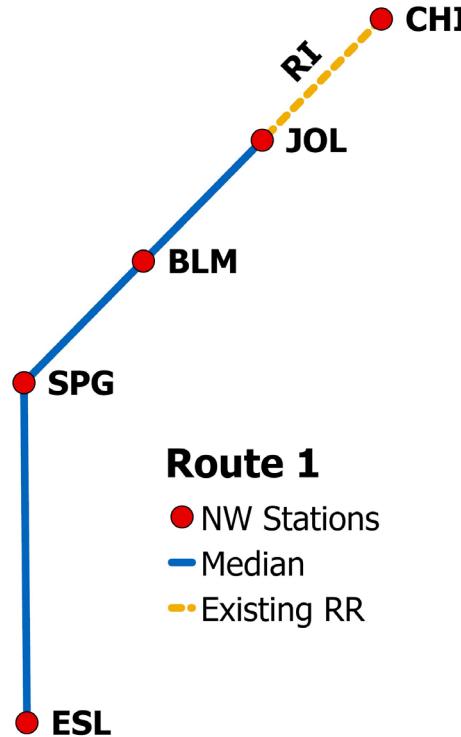
- 10 Track Structures & Track
- 20 Stations, Terminals, Intermodal
- 30 Support Facilities: Yards, Shops, Admin. Bldgs
- 40 Sitework, Right of Way, Land, Existing Improvements
- 50 Communications & Signaling
- 60 Electric Traction
- 70 Vehicles
- 80 Professional Services
- 90 Unallocated Contingency
- Notes:
  - 50% contingency on Categories 10-70
  - 20% unallocated contingency





# Route 1 – ESL-SPG-BLM-JOL-CHI

## Interstate Median



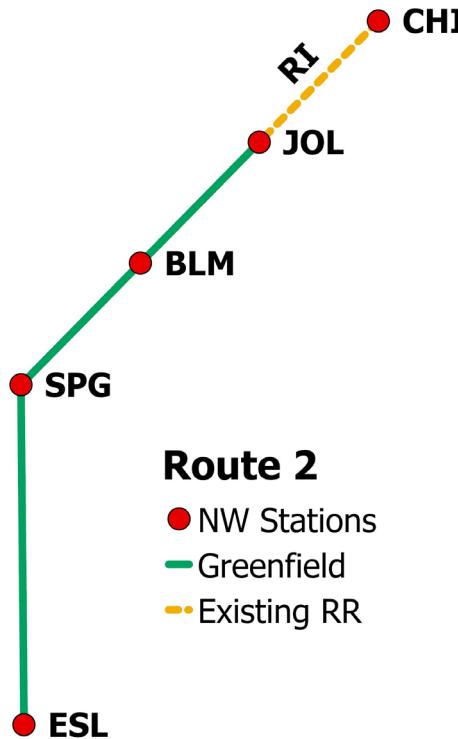
### Travel Time

2 hrs 54 minutes

### Capital Cost Range

\$47 Billion to \$57 Billion

# Route 2 – ESL-SPG-BLM-JOL-CHI Greenfield



## Travel Time

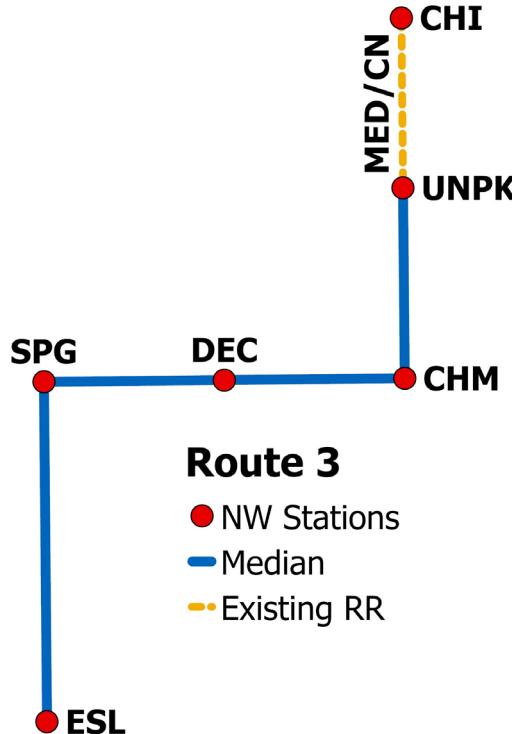
2 hrs 26 minutes

## Capital Cost Range

\$52 Billion to \$62 Billion



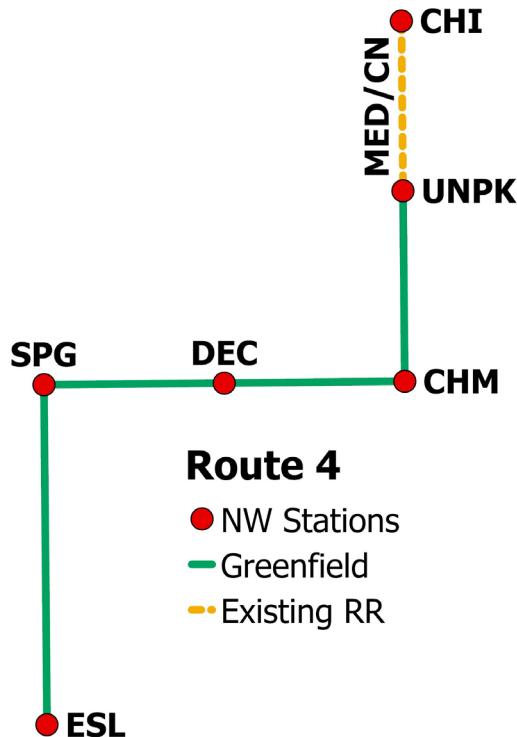
# Route 3 – ESL-SPG-CHM-UNPK-CHI Interstate Median



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 55 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$50 Billion to \$60 Billion

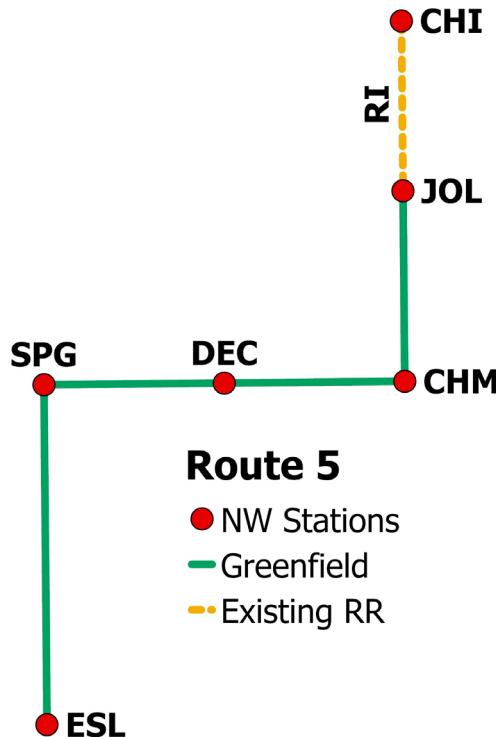
# Route 4 – ESL-SPG-CHM-UNPK-CHI Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 22 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$44 Billion to \$54 Billion

# Route 5 – ESL-SPG-CHM-JOL-CHI Greenfield



## Travel Time

2 hrs 32 minutes

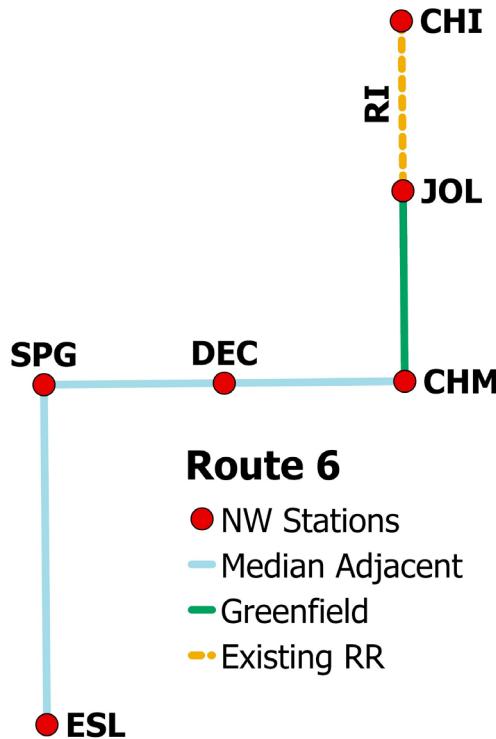
## Capital Cost Range

\$50 Billion to \$60 Billion



# Route 6 – ESL-SPG-CHM-JOL-CHI

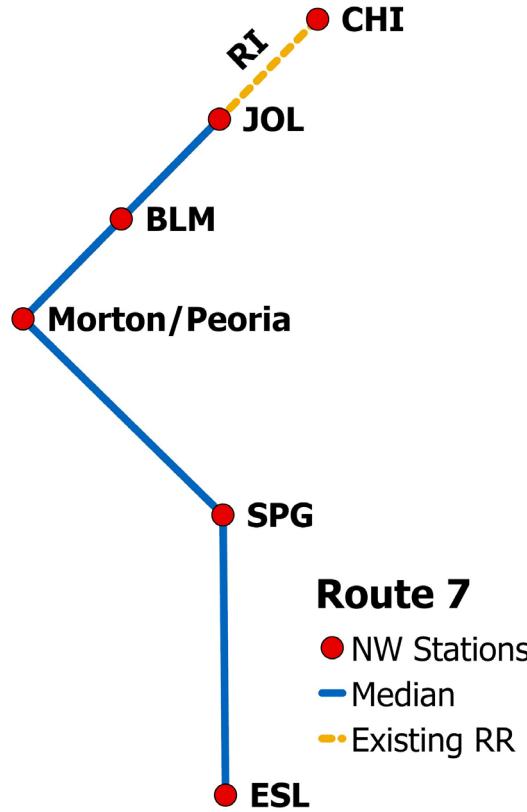
## Median Adjacent/Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 39 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$59 Billion to \$69 Billion

# Route 7 – ESL-SPG-PEO-JOL-CHI Interstate Median



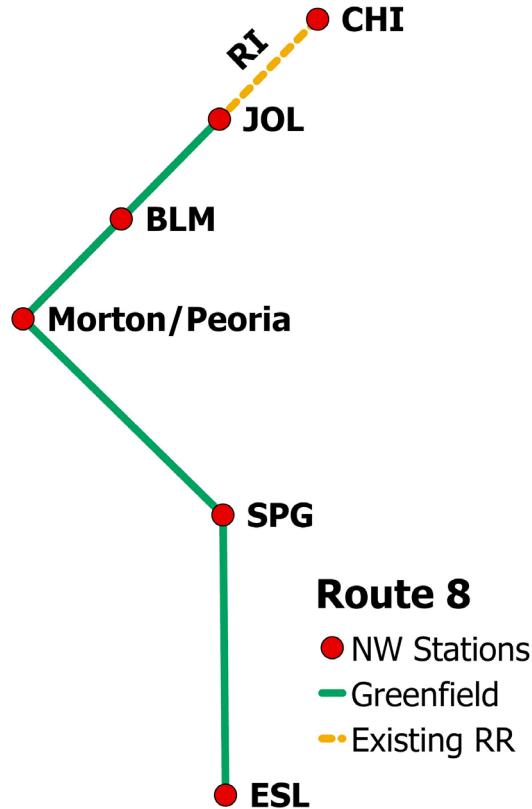
## Travel Time

3 hrs 10 minutes

## Capital Cost Range

\$48 Billion to \$58 Billion

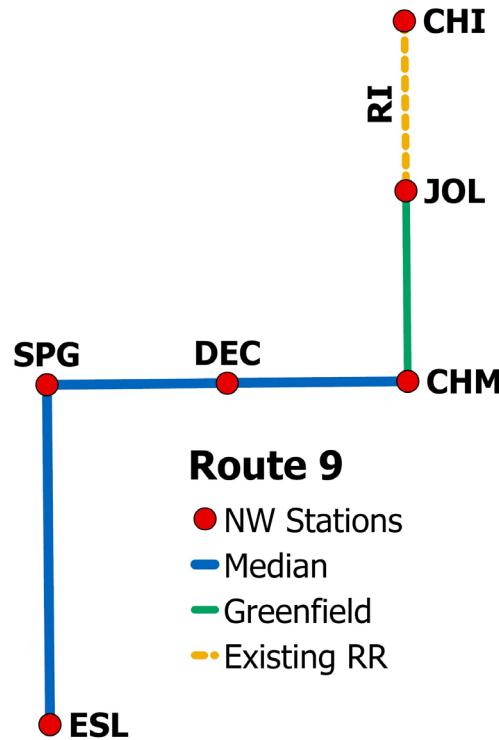
# Route 8 – ESL-SPG-PEO-JOL-CHI Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 44 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$60 Billion to \$70 Billion

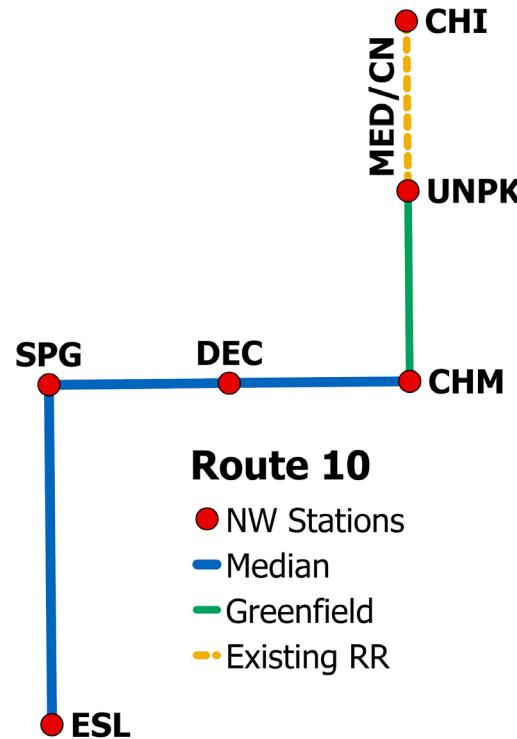
# Route 9 – ESL-SPG-CHM-JOL-CHI Median/Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 53 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$49 Billion to \$59 Billion

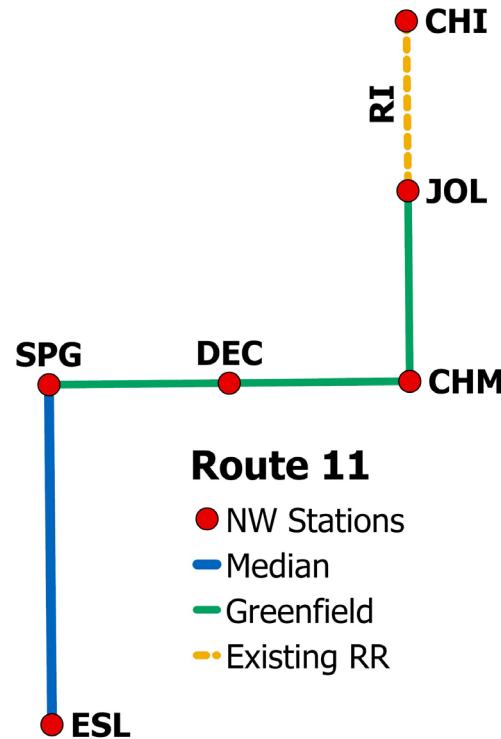
# Route 10 – ESL-SPG-CHM-UNPK-CHI Median/Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 45 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$43 Billion to \$53 Billion

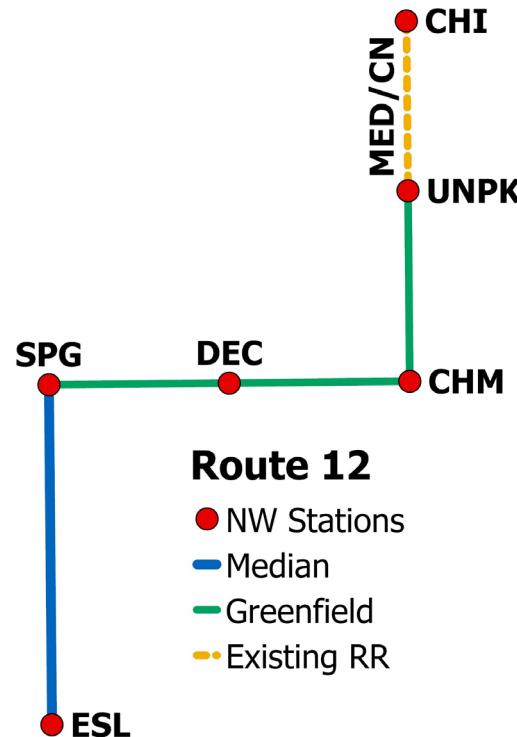
# Route 11 – ESL-SPG-CHM-JOL-CHI Median/Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 40 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$45 Billion to \$55 Billion

# Route 12 – ESL-SPG-CHM-UNPK-CHI Median/Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 30 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$39 Billion to \$49 Billion

# Estimated Travel Times

Route #	Intermediate Station Stops	Right-of-Way Type	Equipment Type	Chicago Access	Travel Time
1	Springfield - Bloomington/Normal - Joliet	Interstate Median	Tilting	Rock Island	2:54
2	Springfield - Bloomington/Normal - Joliet	Greenfield	Conventional	Rock Island	2:26
3	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Interstate Median	Tilting	Metra Electric District	2:55
4	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Greenfield	Conventional	Metra Electric District	2:22
5	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Greenfield	Conventional	Rock Island	2:32
6	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Median Adjacent/Greenfield	Conventional	Rock Island	2:39
7	Springfield - Peoria/Morton - Joliet	Interstate Median	Tilting	Rock Island	3:10
8	Springfield - Peoria/Morton - Joliet	Greenfield	Conventional	Rock Island	2:44
9	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Median/Greenfield	Tilting	Rock Island	2:53
10	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Median/Greenfield	Tilting	Metra Electric District	2:45
11	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Median/Greenfield	Tilting	Rock Island	2:40
12	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Median/Greenfield	Tilting	Metra Electric District	2:30

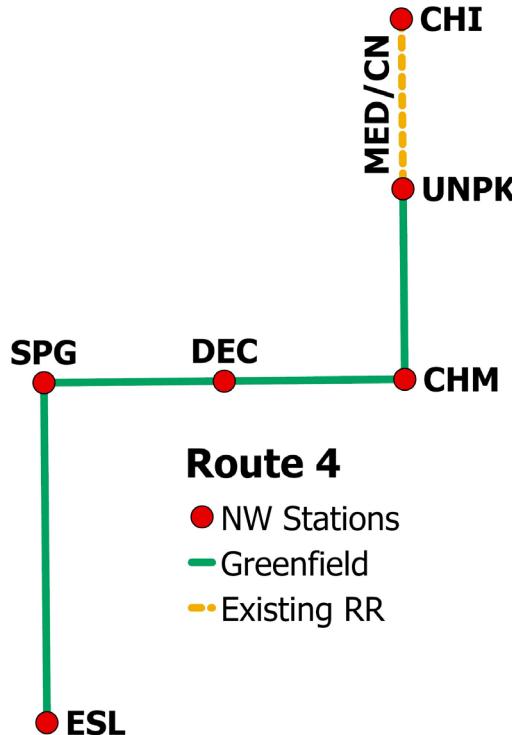
\*Total Runtime: Includes 8% schedule pad for interstate and 20% for greenfield and 2-minute station dwell



# Cost Per Mile

Route #	Intermediate Station Stops	Right-of-Way Type	Cost per Mile (Millions/mile)
1	Springfield - Bloomington/Normal - Joliet	Interstate Median	\$160-\$194
2	Springfield - Bloomington/Normal - Joliet	Greenfield	\$182-\$216
3	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Interstate Median	\$163-\$196
4	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Greenfield	\$150-\$184
5	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Greenfield	\$164-\$197
6	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Median Adjacent/Greenfield	\$187-\$219
7	Springfield - Peoria/Morton - Joliet	Interstate Median	\$151-\$183
8	Springfield - Peoria/Morton - Joliet	Greenfield	\$190-\$222
9	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Median/Greenfield	\$154-\$185
10	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Median/Greenfield	\$140-\$172
11	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - Joliet	Median/Greenfield	\$146-\$178
12	Springfield - Decatur - Champaign/Urbana - University Park	Median/Greenfield	\$131-\$165

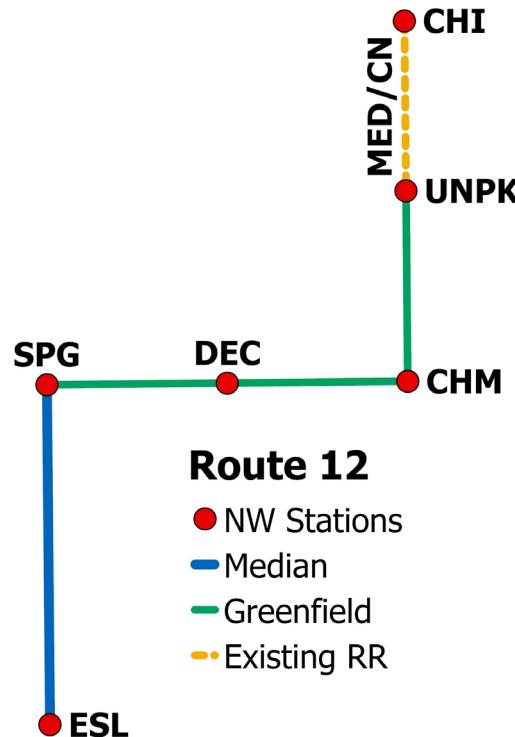
# Route 4 – ESL-SPG-CHM-UNPK-CHI Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 22 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$44 Billion to \$54 Billion

# Route 12 – ESL-SPG-CHM-UNPK-CHI Median/Greenfield



**Travel Time**  
2 hrs 30 minutes

**Capital Cost Range**  
\$39 Billion to \$49 Billion

# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- Continue refining feasibility-level costs
- Continue O&M costs
- Coordinate with ridership team



# Market Analysis



# Methodology to Forecast High Speed Rail Ridership (HSR)



3

## Current Status

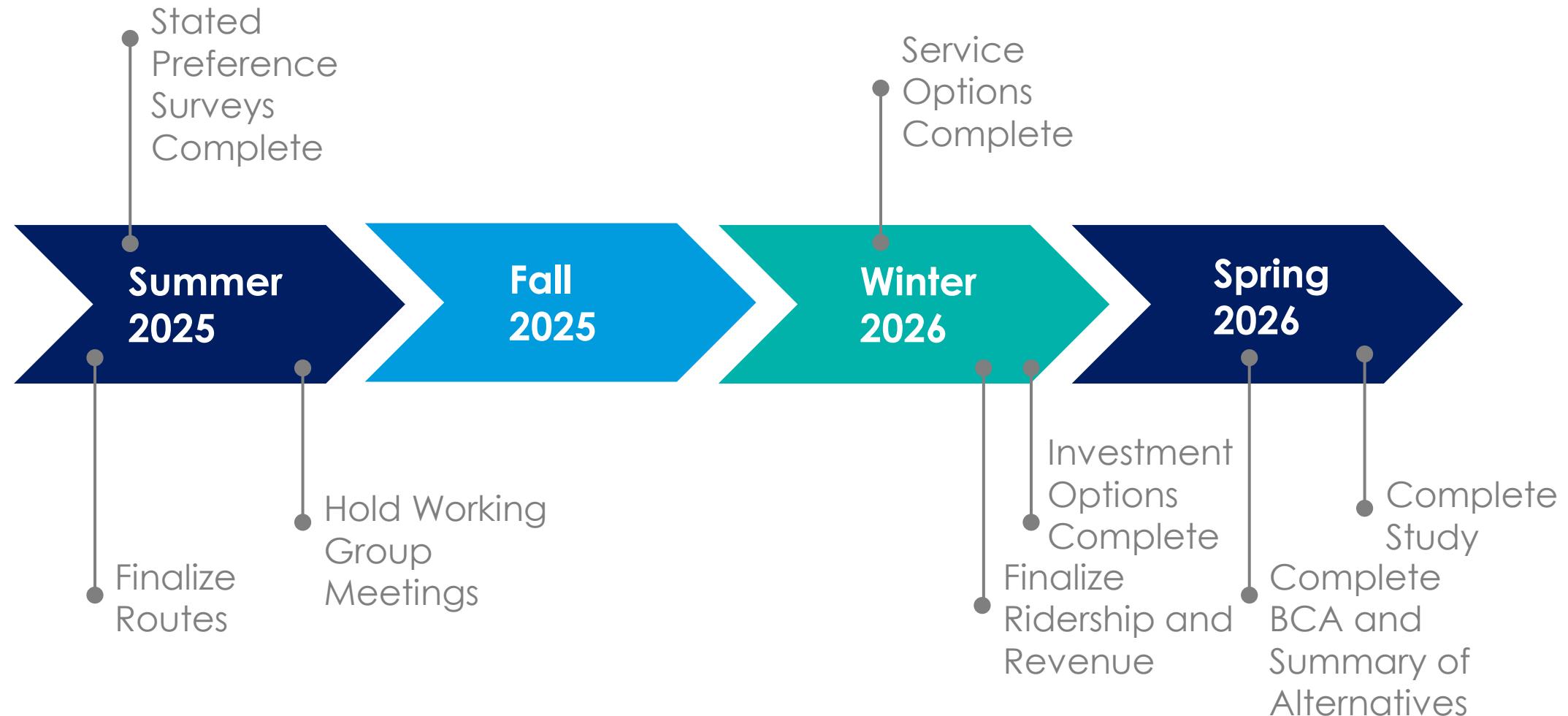
- Model development
- Forecasting

Task	Purpose	Status
Data collection	Primary and secondary data collection to understand size of the overall travel market and preferences	Completed
Model estimation	Estimate model to predict model split for different market segments (purpose, income, distance)	Completed
Model input processing	Process trip tables and level of service characteristics for use in the model	Completed
Model development	Develop model that produces ridership, revenue, VMT and TTS for each station pair/route	Completed
Model calibration and validation	Confirm model provides reasonable results	Ongoing
Sensitivity testing	Understand impact of the changes in LOS characteristics on ridership and revenue	Ongoing
Annual ridership and revenue forecast	End product	March/April 2026

# Schedule



# Schedule

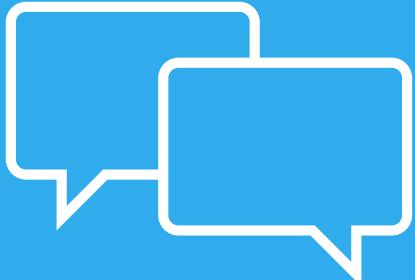


# Thank you!



*Strengthening our State. Connecting the Region.*

# NEW BUSINESS



**Are there any new business items  
to propose discussing?**

# PUBLIC COMMENT



**We will now open the floor  
for public comment.**

# Adjournment



**Jim Derwinski**, Chair, HSR Commission

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**Tim Butler**, Vice Chair, HSR Commission

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