

Cary to build \$2.4 million Metra station



A rendering of the new Metra station to be built in Cary. (Village of Cary)



By **John Keilman** · Contact Reporter
Chicago Tribune

An unfortunately situated train station in Cary will be replaced by a new \$2.4 million building under an agreement approved by the [Metra](#) board Wednesday.

The way it is now, commuters buy their tickets at the station on the south side and have to cross over to the north side, where there is no shelter, to catch a train to Chicago, Metra spokesman Michael Gillis said.

The structure was built there decades ago because there is only a slim strip of land between the inbound tracks and Northwest Highway. But Erik Morimoto, Cary's public works director, said engineers figured out a way to shoehorn a new building onto that property.

The new facility will go up on the north side of the tracks — where most commuters gather and wait for trains. Chicago-bound commuters will still have to cross over from the parking lot to the new station, but now they'll be able to buy their tickets and stay out of the rain.

“It’s a very narrow building, but it will be a great-looking facility and will meet the needs of the commuters,” Morimoto said.

The station, on the UP Northwest Line between Chicago and the northwest suburbs, also will include heated flooring, a covered waiting area, a platform shelter and electronic parking fee collection boxes, officials said.

Work is expected to begin this summer and will take about a year; the old building will be torn down once the new structure is finished.

Metra’s \$2 million contribution toward the project will come from federal funds, Gillis said.

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