“Slow zones” are areas of track where trains are required to operate at slower-than-normal speeds due to certain track conditions and other temporary concerns. Track conditions can develop on railways from age, weather and other sometimes unpredictable forces that cause distress or deterioration on track components. Slow zones can also be implemented due to nearby construction work, which can last for weeks or even months.

With more than 220 miles of CTA track, slow zones are constantly changing and evolving: As crews repair one section of track, new slow zones can be instituted if track inspectors detect new signs of deterioration somewhere or as an upgrade project begins on our system.

As a result, the percentage of slow zones across our system vary from month to month.

Visit transitchicago.com/sze to learn more about Slow Zone Elimination work.