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Press Release

October 17, 2007

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### MTA LIRR "South Fork Commuter Connection" On Track For October 23 Debut

#### *Response To Request For Assistance During Major Road Reconstruction*

The MTA Long Island begins the "South Fork Commuter Connection" to and from the East End's South Fork on Tuesday, October 23. The six additional trains, three eastbound and three westbound, are intended to help ease the motor vehicle traffic crush expected during the reconstruction of County Road 39.

The local train service, originating from Speonk and operating through the Hamptons with four trains to and from Montauk, will provide local residents and businesses an alternative to traffic gridlock during the road construction. The pilot program will run weekdays through May 22, 2008. In addition to easing the highway traffic crunch, the rail initiative is expected to also promote the use of public transportation on the East End and enhance the quality of life for East End commuters.

LIRR President Helena Williams said, "In response to community requests, the LIRR is nearly doubling its service to East End communities during the coming months." She added, "We are pleased to be partnering with local elected officials to help mitigate traffic congestion during the County Road 39 work." The railroad has worked with Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Senator Kenneth LaValle, Congressman Tim Bishop and Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy to fund the additional operating expenses incurred for the enhanced service. For the seven-month service period, the total LIRR cost is estimated at \$588,000.

A special modified fare will be in effect for the new service: one-way-\$2.25, one-way for seniors and disabled riders-\$1.00; weekly-\$20; monthly-\$66.

The new train service is as follows:

#### Eastbound

- Departs Speonk at 6:11 AM, stopping at Westhampton (6:18 AM), Hampton Bays (6:38 AM), Southampton (6:48 AM), Bridgehampton (6:56 AM) and East Hampton (7:06 AM).
- Departs Speonk at 8:32 AM, stopping at Westhampton (8:38 AM), Hampton Bays (8:48 AM), Southampton (8:58 AM), Bridgehampton (9:06 AM), East Hampton (9:16 AM), Amagansett (9:21 AM) and Montauk (9:41 AM).
- Departs Speonk at 2:44 PM, stopping at Westhampton (2:50 PM), Hampton Bays (3 PM), Southampton (3:10 PM), Bridgehampton (3:18 PM), East Hampton (3:37 PM), Amagansett (3:42 PM) and Montauk (4:02 PM).

#### Westbound (new train service)

- Departs East Hampton at 7:26 AM, stopping at Bridgehampton (7:35 AM), Southampton (7:45 AM), Hampton Bays (7:55 AM), Westhampton (8:05 AM) and Speonk (8:12 AM).
- Departs Montauk at 12:28 PM, stopping at Amagansett (12:47 PM), East Hampton (12:52 PM), Bridgehampton (1:01 PM), Southampton (1:11 PM), Hampton Bays (1:21 PM), Westhampton (1:39 PM), Speonk (1:46 PM).
- Departs Montauk at 4:22 PM, stopping at Amagansett (4:41 PM), East Hampton (4:46 PM), Bridgehampton (4:55 PM), Southampton (5:05 PM), Hampton Bays (5:15 PM), Westhampton (5:25 PM) and Speonk (5:35 PM).

The new service supplements the existing service east of Speonk which is:

#### Eastbound

- Departs Speonk at 2:52 AM, arrives Montauk at 4:01 AM
- Departs Speonk at 9:44 AM, arrives Montauk at 10:53 AM
- Departs Speonk at 1:11 PM, arrives Montauk at 2:20 PM
- Departs Speonk at 6:24 PM, arrives Montauk at 7:35 PM
- Departs Speonk at 7:55 PM, arrives Montauk at 9:07 PM
- Departs Speonk at 10:30 PM, arrives Montauk at 11:57 PM

#### Westbound

- Departs Montauk at 1:03 AM, arrives Speonk at 2:17 AM
- Departs Montauk at 5:39 AM, arrives Speonk at 6:49 AM
- Departs Montauk at 11:23 AM, arrives Speonk at 12:41 PM
- Departs Montauk at 2:51 PM, arrives Speonk at 4:14 PM
- Departs Montauk at 10:38 PM, arrives Speonk at 12:03 AM

Customers should pick up a copy of the Montauk Branch timetable effective October 23 at their station or at all LIRR terminals. For additional information, customers may contact the LIRR's 24-hour Travel Information Center in Suffolk County at 631-231-LIRR, in Nassau County at 516-822-LIRR or in New York City at 718-217-LIRR. The Travel Information Center's TDD telephone number for the hearing impaired is 718-558-3022. Customers may also consult the LIRR's website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info).