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Press Release

November 18, 2009

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

Bridge Replacement Work To Affect LIRR Oyster Bay Branch Service This Weekend, Nov. 21-22

Trains Replaced By Vans Between Oyster Bay & Locust Valley This Weekend. West Shore Road Remains Open For Highway Traffic

Vans will replace trains between Oyster Bay and Locust Valley on the MTA Long Island Rail Road's Oyster Bay Branch this weekend, November 21-22 as work continues on the replacement of the West Shore Road railroad bridge in Mill Neck. While the work is performed this weekend, West Shore Road will remain open for highway traffic, there will be no detour route required.

The Shore Road Bridge replacement project is part of the LIRR's regular bridge maintenance and modernization program. This bridge was first installed in 1910 and has served the LIRR's Oyster Bay Branch well for nearly a century.

Train Service Impacts

The track between Oyster Bay and Locust Valley will be out of service beginning Friday, November 20 at 10:01 PM through Monday, November 23 at 2:01 AM. Van service will replace trains between Oyster Bay and Locust Valley as follows:

Eastbound

During this weekend, eastbound Oyster Bay Branch trains will terminate at Locust Valley. Oyster Bay-bound customers will board vans at Locust Valley to complete their trips to Oyster Bay. Customers should expect additional travel time of eleven minutes.

Westbound

During this weekend, westbound Oyster Bay Branch trains will originate from Locust Valley. Oyster Bay customers will board vans at Oyster Bay Station and proceed directly to Mineola to ensure connecting train service. Oyster Bay customers should expect up to 30 minutes additional travel time. Customers should pick up a copy of the special weekend November 21-22 Oyster Bay Branch timetable for van departure times from Oyster Bay Station.

Thirty-four passenger trains (17 eastbound and 17 westbound) travel over this bridge daily. Approximately 1,900 customers use the Oyster Bay Branch each day.

Bridge replacement became a priority in recent years due to the structure's age and because of structural damage from vehicular strikes, a reported seven strikes since 2002 and numerous unreported strikes over the years. The new structure will be raised approximately 14 inches to approximately 13-feet seven inches highway clearance. Funding for this project, approximately \$3.4 million, is provided by the Federal Transit Administration.

The work includes replacement of the bridge itself with a prefabricated span along with infrastructure reconstruction including bridge seats rehabilitation, reconstruction of bridge abutments and wing walls, installation of new approach slabs and ballast retaining structures at four corners. During the first phase of the bridge replacement work last weekend, the old bridge was hoisted out of place and replaced with the new prefabricated bridge using an 800-ton capacity crane, the largest crane ever used on LIRR property.

The remaining work this weekend includes the completion of the retaining wall installation.

Customers should pick up a copy of the special weekend November 21-22 Oyster Bay Branch timetable at their stations or at all terminals. Customers can also contact the LIRR's 24-hour Travel Information Center, in Nassau County at 516-822-LIRR, in New York City at 718-217-LIRR or in Suffolk County at 631-231-LIRR. The Travel Information Center's TDD telephone number for the hearing impaired is 718-558-3022. Customers can also consult the LIRR's web site at www.mta.info.