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Press Release

February 25, 2009

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### Buses To Replace Trains Between Speonk & Montauk Weekdays March 2nd Thru May 15th

#### *LIRR To Install New Track Ties On Montauk Branch*

Bus service will replace MTA Long Island Rail Road trains between Speonk and Montauk on weekdays from March 2, 2009 through May 15, 2009 to allow for the installation of new track ties along the route.

The \$9.3 million track refurbishment will cover 44.3 miles and involve the installation of 30,800 new track ties.

Included in this program is the process of surfacing or aligning the new ties with fresh stone ballast that is dropped over the entire work area to provide a smooth and comfortable ride for customers.

The LIRR has budgeted \$53 million for track improvements systemwide in 2009, including new switches, track joint elimination, interlocking switch surfacing and installation of continuous welded rail.

The project on the Montauk Branch will start Monday, March 2, with work beginning each weekday morning (including Good Friday, April 10) at 6:49 AM and ending at 5 PM.

The shutdown of the Montauk branch during those hours will affect four trains. Buses will be running on earlier schedules than the trains they are replacing so Montauk Branch customers are urged to pick up a copy of the latest timetable that include bus departure times.

#### WESTBOUND SERVICE:

Westbound, the 11:23 AM and the 2:51 PM trains from Montauk will be canceled and replaced by buses which will pick up customers at Montauk, Amagansett, East Hampton, Bridgehampton, Southampton, Hampton Bays and Westhampton. At Speonk, customers will board trains for points West. Westbound customers will experience between 6 and 27 minutes increased travel time depending on their home station.

#### EASTBOUND SERVICE:

Eastbound, the 8:11 AM and the 11:30 trains from Jamaica to Montauk will terminate at Speonk where customers will board buses for stations Westhampton through Montauk. Eastbound customers will experience between 14 and 38 minutes increased travel time depending on destination.

For additional travel information, customers can 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).