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Press Release

March 4, 2010

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### Ronkonkoma Parking Lot Renovation Completed; Almost 300 New Spots Now Available

#### *Work Completed On Schedule*

MTA Long Island Rail Road customers using the busy Ronkonkoma Station now have almost 300 new parking spots available to them thanks to completion of a railroad funded renovation project on the northeast side of the tracks in the Town of Brookhaven. The rehabilitation of the former dirt lot included drainage, curbs, asphalt paving, sidewalks, lighting, striping, signage, fencing and landscaping.

The project was accomplished in two stages with work on the western half of the area begun last May and completed at the end of October, 2009. This allowed railroad customers to use about 110 new parking spaces as work continued on the other half of the lot. Work then began on the eastern half of the lot and was opened to the public in February.

"I'm pleased that our Ronkonkoma customers now have a greater parking opportunity at this busy station," said LIRR President Helena Williams.

"Working with local officials, like the Town of Brookhaven, is a key part of our parking program," added Ms. Williams.

"Every day thousands of my constituents use the Ronkonkoma Train Station to get to work," said Senator Brian X. Foley. "It is crucial that we improve and maintain the infrastructure at the station. These renovations will be critical in enhancing safety and accessibility for commuters," said Sen. Foley, who serves on the Senate Transportation Committee.

The Town of Brookhaven will take over maintenance of the new parking area as part of the LIRR Parking Program.

The cost of the project, funded by the MTA LIRR Capital Program, was approximately \$3-million. The Long Island-based contractor, Norman Kurrass Contracting of Patchogue performed the work. There are approximately 6,095 parking spaces (including the new lot) at the Ronkonkoma Station.

Approximately 9,900 customers use the Ronkonkoma Station daily. Since 1986, over 14,000 new, rehabilitated or replacement parking spaces have been added in the LIRR service area under the MTA LIRR Capital Program.