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Press Release

July 7, 2011

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

Buses Replace Trains Between Port Washington & Great Neck July 9-10 Weekend

Service Outage Will Allow LIRR to Carry Out Scheduled Maintenance of Track and Track Drainage Systems

Buses and vans will replace MTA Long Island Rail Road train service between Port Washington and Great Neck this weekend, July 9-10, as the LIRR carries out track maintenance programs along a heavily used, single track section of the Port Washington Branch. Eastbound customers traveling to Manhasset, Plandome and Port Washington between 12:50 AM on Saturday, July 9 and 12:30 AM Monday, July 11 will travel by train to Great Neck and then board a bus or van to complete their journey. Westbound customers traveling during the same period will board a bus or van at Port Washington, Plandome or Manhasset for the trip to Great Neck and a train to Penn Station.

The last eastbound train making the entire trip to Port Washington will depart Penn Station at 11:48 PM on Friday. The last westbound train before the outage will depart Port Washington at 12:40 AM on Saturday morning. Westbound buses from Port Washington, Plandome and Manhasset will be leaving for Great Neck up to 25 minutes earlier than the regularly scheduled train departure time.

Customers traveling in either direction should allow up to 25 minutes additional travel time to reach their destination.

About 2,500 customers ride the LIRR to and from those stations on a typical Saturday and Sunday.

On Monday, July 11, regular eastbound service will resume with the departure of the 12:19 AM from Penn Station. Regular westbound service will resume with the departure of the 12:40 AM train from Port Washington.

The service outage is necessary to give LIRR crews time to perform routine track maintenance, including resurfacing, welding and insulated joint replacement. The LIRR will take advantage of the track time to carry out drainage maintenance and repairs along flood-prone sections of track in Great Neck and Manhasset. Such work cannot be done on weekdays when 43,000 customers are traveling along the Port Washington Branch daily, with two-thirds of those customers beginning and ending their day at Great Neck, Manhasset, Plandome or Port Washington Stations.

While some of the work is in the vicinity of a proposed Colonial Road pocket track extension project, it is not part of the bridge replacement and pocket track extension which is currently the subject of an environmental review process. The Colonial Road project would install brand new drainage systems in the area.

Customers can check on LIRR service before heading to train stations by monitoring the MTA website, www.mta.info, listening to the latest traffic reports and signing up for free E-Alerts that provide the latest train information direct from the LIRR train operations center. Customers can also contact the LIRR's Travel Information Center at 718-217-5477 (718-217-LIRR). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use your preferred relay service provider or the free 711 relay to reach LIRR at 718-217-5477.