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Press Release

March 28, 2011

[LIRR](#)

IMMEDIATE

### LIRR Ronkonkoma Branch Early-Morning Service Affected by Rail Testing April 2

#### *Buses Replace Early-Morning Weekend Trains*

The MTA Long Island Rail Road will provide bus service in place of early-morning trains on the Ronkonkoma Branch on Saturday, April 2 as track inspections are made by the Sperry Rail Car. Customers on four eastbound and four westbound early-morning trains between Farmingdale and Ronkonkoma will be affected.

Eastbound: Customers on the 12:14 AM, 1:16 AM, 2:53 AM and 4:43 AM trains from Penn Station to Ronkonkoma will transfer to buses at Hicksville for travel to stations Wyandanch through Ronkonkoma. Bethpage and Farmingdale customers will stay on these trains to their stations. Eastbound customers should expect up to 24 minutes additional travel time, depending on destination station.

Westbound: Customers on the 12:44 AM, 2:10 AM, 3:45 AM and 5:37 AM trains from Ronkonkoma will board buses at their stations Ronkonkoma through Wyandanch up to six minutes later than scheduled train times and transfer to train at Hicksville to complete their trips. Bethpage and Farmingdale customers will board their normally scheduled trains at their stations.

Customers should expect up to 40 minutes additional travel time.

The Sperry Rail Car, a bright yellow vehicle fitted with ultrasonic and induction test equipment, is designed to detect internal rail defects not readily visible to the eye. Defects that are found will be corrected immediately by a crew of LIRR track maintenance workers. The Sperry Rail Car is used twice a year to inspect approximately 500 miles of LIRR track.

For additional information, customers can 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.