



MTA Press Releases

Press Release

February 2, 2011

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

Long Island Rail Road To Follow A Weekend Timetable On Wednesday Morning, February 2

West Hempstead and East of Ronkonkoma Service will be added

With the forecast of sleet and freezing rain through Wednesday morning, February 2, 2011, MTA Long Island Rail Road will operate on a weekend timetable during the morning as a result of the effects of the storm on the tracks and equipment. Additionally, the LIRR will provide service on the West Hempstead Branch and on the Main Line east of Ronkonkoma. Peak fares will be in effect.

The forecast calls for rising temperatures and the LIRR will gradually restore service to a weekday schedule.

Freezing rain and ice may cause severe impacts on the operation of the LIRR. While the LIRR's goal is to keep operating as long as possible during an ice storm, to protect the safety of our customers and employees, we may have to reduce or suspend service if icing affects the ability of our electric trains to properly draw power from the electrified third rail. Since nearly 80 percent of LIRR service is electric, our trains must be able to maintain good contact with the third rail to draw sufficient power? or there's the risk of a train becoming disabled.

The weekend timetable in effect on Wednesday morning, February 2 will include the addition of the train service on the West Hempstead Branch and East of Ronkonkoma as detailed below:

West Hempstead Branch

Westbound

The 5:37 AM train from West Hempstead, due in Valley Stream at 5:52 AM.

The 8:07 AM train from West Hempstead, due in Atlantic Terminal at 8:54 AM.

The 8:54 AM train from West Hempstead, normally scheduled to arrive in Atlantic Terminal at 9:40 AM, will terminate at Valley Stream at 9:10 AM.

The 10:12 AM train from West Hempstead, due in Valley Stream at 10:27 AM.

The 12:12 PM train from West Hempstead, due in Valley Stream at 12:27 PM.

West Hempstead Branch (cont'd)

Eastbound

The 10:46 AM train from Valley Stream, due in West Hempstead at 11:01 AM.

The 12:46 PM train from Valley Stream, due in West Hempstead at 1:01 PM.

Main Line, East of Ronkonkoma

Westbound

The 5:30 AM from Greenport, due in Ronkonkoma at 6:53 AM.

The 12:41 PM from Greenport, due in Ronkonkoma at 2:05 PM.

Eastbound

The 8:10 AM from Ronkonkoma, due in Riverhead at 8:55 AM.

The 10:42 AM from Ronkonkoma, due in Greenport at 12:07 PM.

Customers are urged to watch for advisories for any changes to LIRR service as a result of the storm.

The LIRR's station waiting rooms will remain open round-the-clock through normal hours on Thursday. When at stations during a storm, we urge customers to listen to announcements and to take extra care when traveling. Stay clear of the platform edges, use handrails on staircases and walk carefully when entering or exiting stations and boarding or leaving trains.

Before venturing out in the storm, it remains critical that customers monitor the MTA website, www.mta.info, listen to news media and traffic reporting services, or call the LIRR's Travel Information Center for the latest information. Customers should also sign up for the LIRR's free email alerts for service updates that come direct from the LIRR's train operations center. The LIRR's Travel Information Center number is 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.