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Press Release

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LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### Buses Replace Trains from Speonk to Montauk for 72 Hours Tuesday thru Friday, April 10-13, April 17-20 & April 24-27 for East End Bridge Rehab

#### *Latest Phase of \$22.4 Million Project Will Return 3 Aging Spans to State of Good Repair*

MTA Long Island Rail Road announced today that buses will replace train service between Speonk and Montauk for 72 hours Tuesday through Friday for three consecutive weeks - April 10-13, 17-20 and again April 24-27 – as the Railroad carries out the next phase of the \$22.4 million rehabilitation of three East End bridges.

The track outages will mean significant schedule changes for Montauk Branch customers during both peak and off-peak periods.

The work on the Shinnecock Canal Bridge, the North Highway Bridge and the Montauk Highway Bridges, all located in Hampton Bays, will require the LIRR to take the single main track between Speonk and Montauk out of service for 72 hours from 2:13 a.m. Tuesday through 2:30 a.m. Friday April 10-13, April 17-20 and 24-27.

The infrastructure improvements, which got underway last fall, is being financed by the Federal Transit Administration and the MTA Capital Program.

The LIRR will provide buses to/from train connections during the project. On Tuesdays, 9 trains will be affected. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 trains will be affected each day. On Fridays, 1 train will be affected. Customers may experience up to 39 minutes of additional travel time depending upon their origin or destination. The outage will affect approximately 403 daily customers traveling eastbound and 364 daily westbound customers each day. Customers can pick a special Montauk Branch timetable for bus and train times during each three-day period.

The work on Shinnecock Canal Bridge, the North Highway Bridge, and the Montauk Highway Bridge, all constructed in the early part of the 20 th Century, is expected to extend the life of each bridge by 35 to 40 years.

LIRR inspections found that the superstructures of the bridges are in fair to good condition, but in need of waterproofing and painting. The substructures of the bridges, including abutments, wing walls and pedestals, are in poor to fair condition. All deteriorated superstructure and substructure elements will be repaired. The above-deck waterproofing, drainage system, bearings and bridge seats will be replaced. Additional work includes re-painting and other site improvements.

As part of the repairs, the vertical roadway clearance of Montauk Highway and North Highway Bridges will be increased by approximately 5 inches to reduce the potential for today's larger trucks and buses to strike the overhead bridge structure. This is an improvement the Railroad is making during all bridge modernizations where necessary.

During each 72-hour outage, eastbound trains will terminate at Speonk and buses will carry customers to destinations east to Montauk. Westbound travelers between Montauk and Hampton Bays will be bused from their home station to Speonk and there board trains to points west.

The complete substitute busing schedule can be found in specially printed "East of Speonk" Montauk Branch timetables for the April dates. The special timetables are also available at LIRR terminals and local stations or on the web at [www.mta.info/lirr](http://www.mta.info/lirr).

Rush hour customers are reminded that buses will replace the following AM PEAK and PM PEAK trains between Speonk and Montauk during all three outages.

#### **Westbound**

The 5:39 PM train from Montauk scheduled to arrive in Speonk at 6:49 AM will instead originate from Speonk on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

#### **Eastbound**

The 6:17 PM train from Jamaica will terminate at Speonk at 7:55 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

For additional information, Customers can call 511, the New York State Travel Information Line and when prompted say: Long Island Rail Road. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use your preferred relay service provider for the free 711 relay to reach the LIRR at 511. Montauk branch customers can also consult the MTA website at [www.mta.info/lirr](http://www.mta.info/lirr). At the website, they can sign up for free email service alerts, the fastest and most accurate way to monitor LIRR trains.

