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Press Release

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LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### New LIRR Train Timetables Take Effect Tuesday, September 4

#### ***Latest Schedules Include Service Restorations on the Ronkonkoma & Huntington Branches and Improved Service to Atlantic Terminal and Barclay's Center Arena in Brooklyn***

New MTA Long Island Rail Road timetables will take effect on Tuesday, September 4. The new schedules include the restoration of the 4:34 PM train from Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn to Ronkonkoma, eliminated in September 2010 as part of system-wide service reductions made to help the Metropolitan Transportation Authority close an \$800 million budget gap.

Two other late afternoon trains, the 4:24 PM train from Penn Station to Ronkonkoma and the 4:31 PM train from Penn Station to Huntington, which both took on added stops as part of the service cuts, are returning to their original schedules.

Additionally, the LIRR is revising the PM schedules of trains to Atlantic Terminal in Brooklyn in anticipation of increased ridership with the opening of the new Barclays Center Arena, home court of the NBA Brooklyn Nets as well as a major new concert venue.

These service changes as well as schedule adjustments for trains affected by track maintenance work over the next two months are detailed in new printed train timetables for the period Tuesday, September 4, 2012 through Sunday, November 11, 2012. The new timetables are available at LIRR stations and on the MTA website. The timetables also reflect the restoration of regular service for trains that were impacted by track work during the summer months.

#### **Service Restorations**

The schedules of the following trains, which were canceled or adjusted because of budget cuts in 2010, are being restored as of September 4.

#### **Ronkonkoma Branch**

- The 4:24 PM peak eastbound train from Penn Station is no longer stopping at Jamaica.
- The 4:34 PM peak eastbound train from Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn to Ronkonkoma, is being restored.

#### **Huntington Branch**

- The 4:31 PM peak eastbound train from Penn Station to Huntington is no longer making New Hyde Park to Westbury stops.

#### **LIRR Service to Barclay's Center Arena**

In anticipation of the opening of Barclays Center Arena in Brooklyn, evening service to and from Atlantic Terminal is adjusted between 1 and 5 minutes on five late night trains to improve connections and open up capacity for event-specific service.

#### **Upcoming Track Work Will Mean Adjusted Train Schedules**

The schedules of off-peak weekday midday and weekend trains on the following branches are being adjusted so the LIRR can carry out track maintenance beginning September 4, 2012.

#### **Huntington Branch/Port Jefferson**

- Following the completion of mechanized tie work on the Main Line, five westbound midday Huntington trains are restored to their original schedules running 20 minutes earlier and three westbound Port Jefferson trains are restored between 14 minutes and 45 minutes earlier. However, to allow tie work to occur between Syosset and Huntington, some midday Huntington and Port Jefferson trains are adjusted between 1 minute earlier and 1 minute later than usual.
- On Saturday, September 22 only, one of two main tracks will be out of service for 18 hours for switch replacement work in Huntington. As a result, Huntington service will be reduced to hourly during the 18 hour period.

#### **Montauk Branch**

One of two main tracks is out of service midday between Freeport and Wantagh so that third rail can be replaced. As a result, all eastbound and westbound express trains are cancelled midday weekdays. Patchogue/Speonk/Montauk scoot connections have been moved to connect with local trains, both eastbound and westbound. As a result of the connection changes and to allow for trains to travel through the area westbound trains have been moved 5 to 10 minutes later and eastbound customers will experience up to 17 minutes of additional travel time

#### **Oyster Bay Branch**

Because of the track outage on the Montauk Branch between Freeport and Wantagh for 3rd rail replacement, five westbound Oyster Bay trains are

moved 10 minutes later to accommodate connections in Jamaica.

### **Main Line**

Concrete tie replacement work results in two of four main tracks between Jamaica and Queens Village being out of service. Three late night/early morning trains are adjusted 1 to 7 minutes later to accommodate this work. On work weekends (October 27-28, November 3-4, 10-11, and 17-18, westbound customers at Hollis and Queens Village will have replacement bus service.

### **Babylon and Long Beach Branches**

On three weekends in September (September 8, 15 and 29) one of four main tracks will be out of service for switch resurfacing and replacement in Valley Stream. This crucial area of the railroad is a switching point for the Babylon, Long Beach, Far Rockaway and West Hempstead branches. Also, on Saturday, September 8 for an 18 hour period, van service replaces train service for eastbound and westbound for St. Albans customers. St. Albans customers will experience up to 32 minutes increased travel time. On Saturday, September 15th, for an 18 hour period and again on Saturday, September 29 for a 24 hour period, eastbound Long Beach trains will be adjusted 16 minutes later and westbound Long Beach trains will be adjusted seven minutes later.

### **Work Completed and Service Restored**

The following projects have been completed and impacted trains schedules restored to normal.

### **Main Line**

The completion of a tie installation program on the Main Line allows for the restoration of impacted service on the Main Line, Long Beach, Huntington, Port Jefferson and West Hempstead branches.

### **Babylon Branch**

The completion direct fixation work allows for the restoration of weekend service on the Babylon, Montauk, Far Rockaway and Hempstead branches.

### **Far Rockaway Branch**

The completion of crossing renewals allows for the restoration of impacted midday weekday service on the Far Rockaway, Long Beach and Hempstead branches.

### **Huntington/Port Jefferson Branch**

The completion of switch and tie work allows for the restoration of impacted trains on the Huntington and Port Jefferson branches.

### **For More Information**

Customers can pick up a copy of the new timetables at the LIRR's major terminals and at local stations or consult the LIRR website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info). Customer can also call 511, the New York State Travel Information Line and say "Long Island Rail Road." If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use your preferred relay service provider on the free 711 relay to reach the LIRR at 511. For the most up-to-day information on train service, sign up for LIRR E-alerts and text messages at [www.mymtaalerts.com](http://www.mymtaalerts.com). Project and service information is also available on the LIRR's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/mtalirr?ref=nt> and on twitter at <http://twitter.com/LIRRScoop>.