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Press Release

June 25, 2012

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

East Side Access Work Means Summer Service Changes Start July 9

Eastbound Evening Rush Hour Service Affected for Up to Four Weeks; Include Three Canceled Trains and Adjustments to Four Other PM Rush Trains

Starting Monday, July 9, work associated with the MTA Long Island Rail Road's East Side Access Project will affect some eastbound evening rush hour service for up to one month.

As a tunnel boring machine performs excavation work on the Queens side of the East River Tunnels, an important switch (Switch 813) will be taken out of service. This work will eliminate one of the three eastbound tracks normally used during the PM Peak period. Long Island Rail Road trains will operate using two main tracks between Penn Station and Jamaica instead of three during this time period. This reduction in capacity will result the cancellation/combination of three evening rush hour trains – two on the Babylon Branch and one on the Long Beach Branch.

In addition, the schedules of four evening rush hour trains will be modified to allow eight other evening rush hour trains to be re-routed to the two remaining Main Line tracks.

This construction program has been designed to allow train schedules to return to normal in the event that the tunneling and track work is completed earlier than anticipated.

The loss of Switch 813 and the access it provides to one of our eastbound tracks will temporarily reduce the LIRR's operational flexibility and significantly increase the impact of a service disruption should one occur. To provide a level of protection to operations, the LIRR will deploy added rescue equipment and personnel during the period that the switch and eastbound track are unavailable.

The three cancelled PM Peak eastbound trains are:

- The 4:52 PM train from Penn Station to Babylon will be canceled. Customers will be on the 5:03 PM train from Penn Station, making all stops to Babylon.
- The 5:20 PM train from Penn Station to Long Beach will be canceled. Customers will be on the 5:23 PM train from Penn Station stopping at Jamaica, then all stops to Long Beach.
- The 5:40 PM train from Penn Station to Seaford will be canceled. Customers will be on the 5:47 PM train from Penn Station, which will make all stops from Rockville Centre to Seaford.

The four PM Peak trains with adjusted schedules include:

- The 5:36 PM train from Penn Station to Babylon, which will depart Penn Station one minute later (at 5:37 PM) and arrive Babylon two minutes later at 6:42 PM.
- The 5:55 PM train from Penn Station to Long Beach will arrive at Long Beach one minute later at 6:52 PM.
- The 5:59 PM train from Penn Station to Babylon will arrive at Babylon five minutes later at 7:04 PM.
- The 6:44 PM train from Babylon to Patchogue will operate two minutes later, departing Babylon at 6:46 PM and arriving Patchogue at 7:16 PM as a result of its connecting train from Penn Station (the 5:37 PM) arriving two minutes later at Babylon.

Customers on the affected Babylon Branch trains will experience up to 11 minutes of additional travel time; while customers on affected Long Beach Branch trains will experience up to six minutes of additional travel time.

For More Information

Customers can pick up a copy of the special timetable cards for the Babylon, Long Beach and Montauk branches containing these evening rush hour adjustments in early July at the LIRR's major terminals and at local stations, or consult the [LIRR Schedules and Fares page](#) on our website at www.mta.info/lirr. Customers 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-date information on train service, customers are advised to sign up for free [LIRR E-alerts and text messages](#) at www.mymtaalerts.com.