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Press Release

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LIRR

IMMEDIATE

New LIRR Timetables Go into Effect Monday, March 4

New Lineup Includes Extra Late-Night Service at Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn; Extra Ronkonkoma Train; plus, Service Restorations on the Port Jefferson, Long Beach, Far Rockaway, Montauk and West Hempstead Branches

New MTA Long Island Rail Road timetables go into effect on Monday, March 4 with enhanced late-night train service to Atlantic Terminal in Brooklyn and half-hourly, westbound AM off-peak service from Farmingdale on the Ronkonkoma Branch, the LIRR's most crowded line.

In addition, the Railroad is restoring trains to the Far Rockaway, Long Beach, Port Jefferson, Montauk and West Hempstead Branches that were eliminated in 2010 when the MTA was facing an \$800 million budget shortfall. The Authority responded by cutting staff across all agencies, including the LIRR, by more than 15% and reducing expenses in addition to the service reductions.

The LIRR first announced its plan to bring back service last summer as part of \$29 million MTA package of service restorations system wide. In total, the Railroad is adding 22 trains on weekdays and 8 on weekends.

The new LIRR schedules include other changes ‐ largely during off-peak hours and on weekends - to accommodate ongoing construction projects such as East Side Access as well as scheduled track maintenance and renewal programs. All of the latest service changes are detailed in newly printed, branch timetables covering the period Monday, March 4, 2013 through Sunday, May 19, 2013. The new timetables are available at LIRR stations and can also be viewed on the MTA website at www.mta.info/lirr.

Service Enhancements and Restorations

Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn & Barclays Center

To accommodate the rapidly growing ridership to Brooklyn since the opening of the new Barclays Center across from Atlantic Terminal, the LIRR is extending late night service until 2 AM seven days a week. In addition, on event nights, the Railroad is adding four extra eastbound trains to the regular schedule between 10 PM and midnight.

Ronkonkoma Branch

Three new westbound off-peak trains are added from Farmingdale Station to Penn Station between 9 AM and noon on weekdays. The new trains will leave Farmingdale at 10:01 AM, 11:01 AM and 12:01 PM stopping at Bethpage, Hicksville, Westbury, Mineola, Merillon Ave., New Hyde Park and Jamaica. With these trains added to the regular off-peak service, the LIRR will be providing trains every 30 minutes on the Ronkonkoma Branch, meeting demands of a growing off-peak ridership.

Long Beach Branch

The 6:09 AM train to Atlantic Terminal, which was also dropped from the schedule in 2010, is restored as is the 5:40 PM train from Atlantic Terminal.

Far Rockaway Branch

Two peak trains discontinued in 2010 that ran between Long Beach and Atlantic Terminal Brooklyn and made some Far Rockaway Branch stops as well are being restored to the schedule:

Westbound

- The 6:09 AM train from Long Beach to Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn, stopping at Valley Stream at 6:30 AM, Rosedale at 6:33 AM. Laurelton at 6:36 AM. Locust Manor at 6:38 AM and continuing on to Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn.

Eastbound

- The 5:40 PM train from Atlantic Terminal to Long Beach, stopping at Rosedale at 6:07 PM and Valley Stream at 6:11 PM and continuing to Long Beach

Port Jefferson Branch

The 5:12 PM train from Hunterspoint, eliminated as part of 2010 service reductions, is being restored, allowing the LIRR to turn the 5:06 PM from Penn Station back into an express train. First stop: Syosset.

Montauk Branch

The LIRR is restoring the 4:30 PM train from Hunterspoint to Montauk on weekdays. That train had been operating on summer Fridays only as a result of the budget cuts. Additionally, three trains will be added to the evening schedule to provide hourly weeknight service through midnight as far east as Patchogue.

Eastbound

- The 10:36 PM train from Babylon arriving at Patchogue at 11:06 PM
- The 12:37 AM train from Babylon arriving at Speonk at 1:37 AM

Westbound:

- The 11:22 PM train from Patchogue arriving at Babylon at 11:52 PM

West Hempstead Branch

The LIRR is restoring two AM Peak westbound trains, one departing West Hempstead at 7:16 AM and a second at 8:28 AM. The new morning lineup of westbound trains will leave West Hempstead at 5:37 AM, 6:53 AM, 7:16 AM, 7:36 AM and 8:28 AM. To meet that goal, the 8:54 AM westbound train from West Hempstead is being discontinued.

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 that scheduled construction work and track maintenance can be carried out.

Main Line (Ronkonkoma, Port Jefferson, Oyster Bay & Hempstead Branches)

The replacement of concrete ties between Jamaica and Queens Village will require two of four main tracks to be out of service for 54 hours periods over the following days: March 8-11, March 22-25, April 5-8, April 12-15, April 19-22, April 26-29, May 3-6 and May 17-20.

For 54 hours, there will be no eastbound service at Queens Village and Hollis on the Hempstead Branch. Customers traveling eastbound to Queens Village or Hollis will board buses at Jamaica Station to reach those stations. Customers should expect 25 minutes of additional travel time.

Babylon Branch

A plan to replace third rail between Freeport and Wantagh will require one of two tracks to be taken out of service on weekdays during the off-peak period. The work will cause schedule adjustments of 4 to 13 minutes eastbound and westbound to Babylon. Express service during this period will be canceled and travel east of Babylon will take up 15 minutes longer.

Montauk Branch

The installation of new track between Wantagh and Amityville on weekends will result in schedule changes of up to 15 minutes. Please check your branch schedule to confirm departure and arrival times.

Oyster Bay Branch

The installation of new railroad ties on weekdays during off-peak periods will put one of two tracks out of service between Mineola and Locust Valley. One eastbound and one westbound train will be canceled and the schedules of the remaining trains adjusted anywhere from 4 to 15 minutes. Please check the newly printed branch timetable to determine the schedule of your train.

For More Information

Customers can pick up the new timetables or consult the LIRR website or 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