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Press Release

August 18, 2015

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### Buses Replace Trains from Port Wash to Great Neck Saturday, Aug. 22 & Sunday, Aug. 23 as Installation of the New Colonial Road Bridge Gets Underway

#### *Trains Will Run to CitiField Saturday for Zac Brown Concert*

Buses will replace trains on the single track area between Port Washington and Great Neck on Saturday, August 22, and Sunday, August 23, as the LIRR begins installation of the new Colonial Road Bridge in the Village of Thomaston near Great Neck Station. For much of that two day period, Port Washington Branch service will be reduced from half-hourly to hourly.

#### But Don't Worry, Zac Brown Fans

Bus service will replace trains beginning at 2:20 a.m. on Saturday and bridge construction will proceed continuously until 3:48 p.m. Saturday afternoon when work will be curtailed to allow train service to resume to get fans to the Mets-Willets Point Station and the Zac Brown concert at CitiField. Then at 2:19 a.m. Sunday morning, buses will again replace train service so that bridge work can resume. Work will continue until 3:23 a.m. Monday morning. Over the entire weekend, the Railroad anticipates the train outage will affect approximately 12,600 customers traveling westbound and 10,600 customer traveling eastbound.

CitiField is served by the LIRR's Mets-Willets Point Station, an special event station on the Port Washington Branch open only for New York Mets games, U.S. Open Tennis, concerts and selected major events.

#### The \$45 Million Colonial Road Project

Under the supervision of the LIRR, contractors will install 41 pre-cast concrete arch units, essentially completing half of the bridge installation over the two days and returning on a future weekend to complete the bridge. The work is part of the LIRR's \$45 million Colonial Road Improvement Project which kicked off in March when the 115-year-old bridge was closed to vehicular traffic, then demolished in June. Colonial Road is expected to reopen to cars and trucks running sometime next year. The project also includes making drainage improvements at track level and extending an existing pocket track to improve operational flexibility.

So for LIRR customers planning to travel on the Port Washington Branch this weekend here are the time period when buses will replace train service.

#### Westbound to New York

Saturday, Aug. 22 & Sunday, Aug. 23, from 2:20 a.m. to 3:48 p.m.

Port Washington Branch service is reduced from half-hourly to hourly and customers boarding at stations Port Washington through Manhasset and Great Neck will board buses or vans up to 25 minutes earlier than normal for Great Neck where normal train service will resume.

#### Eastbound to Port Washington

Saturday, Aug. 22 & Sunday, Aug. 23, from 2:19 a.m. to 3:23 p.m.

Port Washington Branch service is reduced from half-hourly to hourly and customers traveling to stations Manhasset, Plandome and Port Washington will board buses or vans at Great Neck, arriving at their destination up to 25 minutes later.

The entire project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2018. The LIRR's construction plan was developed in close consultation with Village of Thomaston, other Great Neck area villages, the Town of North Hempstead, Nassau County, as well as the New York State Department of Transportation.

#### For More Information

Customers can pick up a copies of the special Port Washington Branch timetables, The Zac Brown Concert at CitiField and the Special Timetable for Bridge Replacement Work at terminals and branch stations. The special timetables can also be found on the MTA LIRR website at this link:

[http://web.mta.info/lirr/Timetable/PortWashingtonColonialRoadAugust22\\_23...](http://web.mta.info/lirr/Timetable/PortWashingtonColonialRoadAugust22_23...) Full details about the Colonial Road Improvement Project can also be found on the MTA website at [www.mta.info/lirr/colonialroad](http://www.mta.info/lirr/colonialroad) and at the Village of Thomaston website [www.villageofthomaston.org](http://www.villageofthomaston.org).