



## MTA Press Releases

[Select Language](#) | ▼

Press Release

October 12, 2018

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### LIRR to Perform Positive Train Control and Sperry Rail Testing on Montauk Branch

***Buses to Substitute For Some Midday, Off-Peak Weekday Trains Between Montauk and Babylon October 15-19; October 29; and November 2***

The Long Island Rail Road will perform Positive Train Control testing and routine rail safety tests on the Montauk Branch during off-peak hours beginning Monday, October 15 through Friday, October 19, and again on Monday, October 29, and Friday, November 2.

The rail safety tests are performed by the Sperry Rail Car, a self-propelled train car fitted with ultrasonic and induction test equipment and is designed to detect internal defects inside the running rails that are not readily visible to the eye. Defects that are found will be corrected immediately by LIRR track maintenance workers.

Positive Train Control is a technology that designed to reduce the potential for human error that could lead to train-involved accidents by automatically slowing trains under certain circumstances through the use of transponders on board trains and along the tracks that continuously determine the train's speed and communicate it to a central control system.

To facilitate this important work, buses will substitute for portions of some off-peak morning and afternoon trains on these days between Montauk and Babylon.

Please note: These service changes will **not** be in effect on Tuesday, October 30, Wednesday, October 31, or Thursday, November 1.

Service change details are as follows:

#### Montauk Branch – [Special Timetable Here](#)

**Weekdays: October 15-19; Oct. 29; Nov. 2, 2018:**

**Eastbound:** Customers traveling to Bay Shore through Montauk during off-peak/midday hours will detrain at Babylon and board buses to their final destinations. Customers can expect up to 65 minutes of additional travel time, depending upon destination.

**Westbound:** Customers at Montauk through Bay Shore during off-peak/midday hours will board buses up to 64 minutes later than normal train times for Babylon, where train service will resume. Customers can expect up to 88 minutes of additional travel time.

#### Many Channels for Services Updates

Information about the service changes noted in this press release and all planned service changes is available through the LIRR's real-time service information sources:

**Email and text message service updates** – Customers are urged to sign up to receive the alerts by visiting [MyMTAAlerts.com](#). To avoid unwanted messages, a user can tailor the messages to the specific branch, and the specific times of day.

**MYmta app** – Customers who use the new, comprehensive MYmta app will see real-time travel information for LIRR and connecting services all in one place. As a caution, trains that start out their trips on time may experience delays en route. The LIRR Train Time app also remains available for customers to access LIRR train information.

**MTA.info** – The rail tab of the "Service Status" box at the left side of [www.MTA.info](#) is always the definitive source for the latest status for each branch, updated every minute. In addition, customers can visit [www.mta.info/lirr](#) to see special service notices in the upper center of the page.

**@LIRR on Twitter** – Twitter users can follow @LIRR to receive updates of a similar nature to the email and text alerts, shortened to fit Twitter's format.

The above communications channels can be accessed while at home or on the go. For customers who are located at stations, the LIRR will post the latest service updates on **digital signs** at station platforms and will make **audio announcements** over public address systems, and **on-board announcements** made by train crews.

For those who prefer the **telephone**, information is available from the LIRR's Customer Service Center by calling 511, the New York State Travel Information Line, and saying: "Long Island Rail Road" Those who are deaf or hard of hearing can use their preferred service provider for the free 711 relay to reach the LIRR at 511.