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Press Release

February 22, 2019

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### LIRR to Perform Ronkonkoma Branch Track Renewal February 23-24 and March 2-3

#### *Buses to Substitute for Weekend Trains Between Hicksville and Ronkonkoma*

To ensure that infrastructure remains in a state of good repair, LIRR maintenance crews will perform important track renewal on the Ronkonkoma Branch during the weekends of February 23-24 and March 2-3. As a result of the work, buses will substitute for trains between Hicksville and Ronkonkoma and customers are advised to plan for additional travel time.

Bus and train schedules can be found here: [http://web.mta.info/lirr/Timetable/02-23,%2024%20&%2003-2,3%20-%20-%20KO%20\(%20B%20\)%20-%20Farm%20Signal%20Cutovers%20-%20GO%20404.pdf](http://web.mta.info/lirr/Timetable/02-23,%2024%20&%2003-2,3%20-%20-%20KO%20(%20B%20)%20-%20Farm%20Signal%20Cutovers%20-%20GO%20404.pdf)

Below is a summary outlining the alternative service.

#### Westbound

Customers boarding at Ronkonkoma, Central Islip, Brentwood, Deer Park, Wyandanch, Pinelawn, Farmingdale or Bethpage will find buses at station that will connect at Hicksville to regularly scheduled train service. Buses will depart from these stations **up to 45 minutes earlier** than normal train departure times.

Customers boarding at Greenport, Southold, Mattituck, Riverhead, Yaphank or Medford will ride regularly schedule trains to Ronkonkoma to connect with substitute bus service to Hicksville, where train service continues. Passengers will arrive at western terminals one hour later than normal.

#### Eastbound

Ronkonkoma Branch trains will operate on their normal times between Penn Station and Hicksville. At Hicksville, customers seeking to travel to all further stations will be able to board buses for continuing eastbound travel. Customers for Bethpage, Farmingdale, Pinelawn, Wyandanch, Deer Park, Brentwood, Central Islip or Ronkonkoma should add up to an additional 46 minutes of travel time.

Trains will operate on normal schedules from Ronkonkoma to Greenport, but customers boarding in New York City, Mineola or Hicksville who are seeking to travel to Medford, Yaphank, Riverhead, Mattituck, Southold or Greenport should plan to arrive at their origin station **one hour earlier** than normal.

#### 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:

**myLIRR.org** – Customers can see real-time positions of upcoming trains in real time, on a smartphone-optimized map that refreshes every 3- to 5-seconds, by logging into myLIRR.org.

**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** – “Service Status” on the homepage of new.mta.info, and at the left side of [www.MTA.info](http://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](http://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.

