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Press Release

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LIRR

IMMEDIATE

LIRR to Restore 14 Rush Hour Trains to/from Penn Station Following Completion of Latest Round of Amtrak Track Work at Penn Station

Long Island Rail Road President Phil Eng today announced that following the expected completion of Amtrak's latest round of work to repair and rebuild infrastructure at Penn Station this weekend, 14 LIRR rush hour trains that had been canceled or rerouted will return to Penn Station effective Tuesday, Sept. 3.

The LIRR has been operating 260 rush hour trains daily, limited by a reduction of track availability due to Amtrak's work. As of this Tuesday, Sept. 3, the LIRR will restore 14 trains, for a rush hour total of 274 trains, a 5.4% increase.

"We're very pleased that Amtrak expects to conclude their important work over this long weekend, which is right on the timetable they had provided," said LIRR President Phillip Eng. "This allows us to restore full rush hour service for our customers this coming Tuesday, as we had promised."

Five rush hour trains that had been canceled are resuming service. Six that had been rerouted to Atlantic Terminal will return to Penn Station. Three that had been operating to/from Jamaica will be extended to Penn Station.

The LIRR had added five trains on the edges of both a.m. and p.m. peak periods to provide affected customers with alternative options. Due to popularity, two of those will continue to operate, the 5:12 a.m. train from Ronkonkoma, due into Penn Station at 6:05 a.m. and the 5:43 a.m. train from Freeport, due into Penn Station at 6:24 a.m.

Other changes taking effect on Sept. 3 include that a westbound South Fork Commuter Connection train will be extended one stop further, to Westhampton, to meet customer demand. On weekends, four lightly patronized, off-peak trains on the Oyster Bay Branch will be discontinued, bringing midday service to a consistent two-hourly service pattern.

A list of service changes that take effect on Tuesday, Sept. 3, follows, organized by branch.

Babylon Branch

Westbound

- The 6:56 a.m. train from Wantagh will resume operating to Penn Station and will no longer have an added Jamaica stop.
- The 7:10 a.m. train from Babylon to Penn Station will return to service.
- The 8:25 a.m. train from Freeport will resume operating to Penn Station.

Eastbound

- The 4:34 p.m. train from Penn Station to Babylon will return to service.
- The 5:19 p.m. train from Penn Station to Wantagh will return to service.
- The 5:40 p.m. train from Penn Station to Seaford will return to service.
- The temporary extra eastbound train to Freeport, departing Hunterspoint Avenue at 7:02 p.m., will be removed from the schedule.

Midday

Some weekday midday, off-peak Babylon Branch trains will depart between 13 minutes earlier and 20 minutes later.

Far Rockaway Branch

Westbound

- The 8:10 a.m. train from Far Rockaway to Penn Station will return to service.

Eastbound

- The 4:42 p.m. train from Penn Station to Far Rockaway will be restored (this train had been originating at Atlantic Terminal).
- The 5:32 p.m. train from Penn Station to Far Rockaway will be restored (this train had been originating at Jamaica).

Hempstead Branch

Westbound

- The 7:12 a.m. train from Hempstead will resume operating to Penn Station.

Eastbound

- The 5:04 p.m. train from Penn Station to Hempstead will be restored (this train had been originating at Jamaica).
- The 5:38 p.m. train from Penn Station to Hempstead will be restored (this train had been originating at Atlantic Terminal).

Long Beach Branch*Westbound*

- The 8:03 a.m. train from Long Beach will resume operating to Penn Station and will no longer have an added stop at Jamaica.

Montauk Branch*Westbound*

- The 6:18 a.m. train from Speonk to Penn Station will depart 3 minutes later at 6:21 AM, and will no longer stop at Massapequa Park, Massapequa or Seaford.
- The 3:05 p.m. Monday-Friday train from Speonk to Jamaica will operate only on Fridays through October 11.
- The 4:52 p.m. South Fork Commuter Connection train from Montauk to Hampton Bays will be extended one stop further to Westhampton.

Eastbound

- The current 6:13 a.m. South Fork Commuter Connection train from Speonk to Amagansett will depart 3 minutes later, at 6:16 a.m.
- The 12:46 p.m. Monday-Friday train from Jamaica to Speonk will operate only on Fridays through October 11, departing at 12:31 p.m.
- The 6:27 p.m. train from Penn Station to Speonk will no longer operate as a direct dual-mode train Monday-Thursday. Instead, this train will operate as a single level electric train from Penn Station to Babylon, where customers will connect with the Speonk-bound train.

Middays Between Sept. 3 and Oct. 11 Between Tuesday, Sept. 3, and Friday, Oct. 11, crews will replace railroad ties and perform rail safety tests on the branch. To accommodate the work, buses will substitute for some morning and midday off-peak trains between Babylon and Patchogue or Babylon and Speonk. These efforts will help to modernize LIRR infrastructure and ensure the continuing safety and reliability of the rails. A special timetable is available at stations and at this link: http://web.mta.info/lirr/Timetable/SpecialTT/09-03_to_10-11-2019-MK.pdf

Oyster Bay Branch

Weekends On weekends, four midday trains will be eliminated, bringing service to a consistent 2-hour service pattern.

Port Jefferson Branch*Middays*

Some weekday midday Huntington trains will depart up to 19 minutes earlier.

Overnights

Some weekday overnight Huntington trains will depart between 6 minutes earlier and 18 minutes later.

Ronkonkoma Branch*Westbound*

- The 6:54 a.m. train from Central Islip will resume operating to Penn Station.

Middays

Some weekday midday Ronkonkoma trains will depart between 30 minutes earlier and 32 minutes later.

Overnights

Some weekday overnight Ronkonkoma trains will depart between 6 minutes earlier and 18 minutes later.