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Press Release

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LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### MTA Long Island Rail Road is Co-Sponsoring 'Car Free Day' on Long Island on Thursday, September 22

#### *Leave Your Car at Home and Take the Long Island Rail Road to Work*

MTA Long Island Rail Road is co-sponsoring the 4th Annual Car Free Day Long Island on Thursday, September 22, the day supporters hope thousands of Long Islanders who usually drive will leave their car at home and take the LIRR to work, school, or to run errands.

Suffolk County will host a Car Free Day LI Summit at the Suffolk County Community College Ammerman Campus in Selden from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. where speakers will discuss sustainable transportation options. Later that evening, supporters will welcome commuters and residents on their way home, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Car Free Day LI Celebration at Wyandanch Plaza.

Car Free Day gives us the opportunity to consider the negative impact of single occupancy vehicles. Using cars less by using alternative modes such as the LIRR, carpooling, bicycles, walking and telecommuting helps reduce traffic, conserve energy, reduce harmful emissions, save money, and even improve fitness. This year 3,332 Long Islanders pledged to be car-free or car-lite, saving over 77 thousand miles of driving and 39 tons of CO2 emissions.

Riding the rails is a great way to be car-free or car-lite, and it's even more convenient with MTA eTix®, the mobile ticketing app that lets you purchase and use Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad tickets directly on your smartphone or mobile device.

The Long Island Rail Road is committed to improving service reliability, and contributing to a car-less commute, through the development of projects like East Side Access (which will bring the LIRR into Grand Central Terminal), Double Track (adding a second track between Ronkonkoma and Farmingdale), and the LIRR Expansion Project (constructing a third track between Floral Park and Hicksville).

So far this year, over 3,000 Long Island residents and workers have already pledged to be car-free or car-lite. Others who choose to take the sustainable route, and complete a pledge online, will be eligible to win free raffle prizes including bicycles, gift cards and theater tickets. Already car free? That's great. And, since you're doing the right thing, you will also get the same chance to win prizes when you fill out the pledge form. A complete list of raffle prizes can be found at the [promotions page](#) on the [Car Free Day LI website](#). World Car Free Day is actually an international environmental event celebrated on September 22 every year in over 2,000 cities around the world.