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Press Release

March 4, 2016

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### Revised Schedules for Babylon, Far Rockaway, Hempstead, Montauk, Oyster Bay, Port Jefferson and West Hempstead Branches Over Consecutive Weekends of March 11-12 and March 19-20

#### *LIRR Installing New Concrete Ties between Rockville Centre & Valley Stream*

Train schedules on the Babylon, Far Rockaway, Montauk, Hempstead, West Hempstead and Huntington branches for the weekends of March 11-12 and March 19-20 are being adjusted to allow the Long Island Rail Road to carry out an important infrastructure upgrade – the installation of new concrete railroad ties along a 7-mile stretch between Rockville Centre and Valley Stream.

Beginning at 10:11 p.m. on both Friday, March 11 and Friday, March 18, one of two main tracks between Rockville Centre and Valley Stream will be out of service until 1:52 a.m. on Monday. Because of the work, service on the Babylon Branch will be hourly instead of half-hourly and buses are replacing train service in several locations. Special timetables covering the affected branches will be available at train terminals and local stations and as well as on the LIRR website [www.mta.info/lirr](http://www.mta.info/lirr). Here are some of the more significant schedule revisions:

#### **Babylon Branch**

- Service on the Babylon Branch service will be reduced from half-hourly to hourly for each entire weekend beginning Friday night at 10 p.m. through early Monday morning.
- The 1:23 a.m. train from Babylon scheduled to arrive at Penn Station at 2:40 a.m. will not stop at Valley Stream, Rosedale, Laurelton and Locust Manor. Customers traveling to those stations will be provided bus service at Rockville Centre.

#### **Far Rockaway Branch**

- There are changes to departure times and stopping patterns for some overnight trains.

#### **Hempstead Branch**

- The 5:17 a.m. train from Jamaica to Hempstead will depart 15 minutes later than normal at 5:32 a.m., arriving Hempstead at 6:03 a.m..

#### **Montauk Branch**

- Departure times for some trains will change as will departure times for connecting trains at Babylon and Jamaica.

#### **Oyster Bay Branch**

- Departure times for some trains will change.

#### **Port Jefferson Branch**

- Most Huntington-bound trains will make added stops at Forest Hills and Kew Gardens.

#### **West Hempstead Branch**

- Buses will replace weekend trains in both directions between West Hempstead and Valley Stream beginning late Friday night and through each weekend.

#### **Track Laying Machine**

The Jamaica to Valley Stream concrete tie replacement project will be carried out using a track-laying machine that simultaneously spreads the old rail, removes the old ties, installs the new concrete ties and threads new continuous-welded rail into the new ties, forming a new track. See one just like it in action at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJ0XtiZZoyA>

**For More Information**

LIRR advises customers on affected branches to pick up a copy of the special weekend timetables dated March 11-12 and March 19-20. The Special Timetables are also posted on line at [www.mta.info/lirr](http://www.mta.info/lirr) At [mymtaalerts.com](http://mymtaalerts.com), customers can sign up for real time LIRR Service Alerts via text message or email. LIRR travel information is also available.