




Staff Summary



Subject TRACKWORK PROGRAMS & FALL SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS						Date July 7, 2023			
Departments SR. VICE PRESIDENT – OPERATIONS						Vendor Name			
Department Head Names R. FREE						Contract Number			
Department Head Signature 						Contract Manager Signature			
Board Action						Internal Approval			
Order	To	Date	Approval	Info	Other	Order	Approval	Order	Approval
1	LI COMM	7/17/22				3	VP – Corp Comm	1	President
						2	CTO 		

PURPOSE:

This is to inform the Long Island Committee of the MTA Long Island Rail Road’s plan to adjust schedules beginning September 5, 2023, through November 12, 2023.

Projects supported during this timetable include Grand Central Madison Contractor Maintenance and Wireless Cellular Installation, Atlantic Branch Bridge Inspections, Hall Interlocking Expansion, Rail Replacement and Maintenance on the Atlantic Branch, Atlantic Tunnel Lighting, Third Rail State of Good Repair Work on the Montauk Branch, Babylon to Patchogue Signalization, and the West Side Yard Overbuild. This timetable also includes a number of service improvements to better reflect new customer travel patterns and demand emerging following the implementation of the Grand Central Madison service plan earlier this year.

Additionally, schedules will be temporarily adjusted for Trackwork Programs for Weekend Grand Central Madison Contractor Maintenance, Concrete Tie Installation and Rail Replacement on the Main Line, a Switch Installation near Floral Park, and Waterproofing of the Van Wyck Bridge.

SEPTEMBER 5 TIMETABLE CHANGE

Service Improvements

- More through service to Atlantic Terminal in the AM peak, and an overall increase of one additional AM peak service opportunity to Atlantic Terminal.
- More express service between Jamaica and Penn Station in the AM peak.
- An added service opportunity from Jamaica to Penn Station in the peak of the AM peak to help alleviate crowding on trains with heavier ridership.
- More AM peak express service on the Huntington and Ronkonkoma Branches.
- One additional AM peak train originating in Hicksville, and one additional AM peak train originating in Westbury, both of which will help reduce crowding on heavier Huntington and Ronkonkoma Branch trains.
- One additional shuttle train from Atlantic Terminal to Jamaica in the 3pm-4pm hour.

- Two Ronkonkoma Branch trains diverted from Grand Central Madison to Penn Station in the 4pm-5pm hour.
- One Ronkonkoma Branch train that normally operates on early release days only will begin to operate Monday through Friday.
- Three PM peak Ronkonkoma trains will make additional stops east of Brentwood.
- More service opportunities from Penn Station following concerts and sporting events at Madison Square Garden
- In the off-peak periods, select trains west of Jamaica will make stops at both Kew Gardens and Forest Hills rather than the skip-stop pattern that exists today.

Service Adjustments Within Guidelines

- **Ronkonkoma Branch** – One lightly-patronized AM peak Ronkonkoma Branch train eliminated.
- **Babylon Branch** – One lightly-patronized AM peak Babylon Branch train eliminated.
- **Port Washington** – One lightly-patronized PM peak Port Washington Branch train eliminated.

Construction Activities

- **Grand Central Madison – Contractor Maintenance** – One of two main tracks will be out of service on weekday and weekend overnights between Grand Central Madison and Plaza Interlocking to support various maintenance activities.
 - **Temporary Service Adjustments:** With one of two main tracks out of service on weekday and weekend overnights, some overnight trains on the Port Washington, Long Beach and Far Rockaway Branches will be diverted to operate to/from Penn Station rather than Grand Central Madison.
- **FRA Inspections and Maintenance – Atlantic Branch** – One of two main tracks will be out of service on midday/weekdays between Atlantic Terminal and Dunton Interlocking to support mandatory FRA rail inspections and maintenance activities.
 - **Temporary Service Adjustments:** With one of two main tracks out of service on midday/weekdays, eastbound and westbound service between Jamaica and Atlantic Terminal will be reduced to hourly for a period of one hour following the AM peak period.

TRACK WORK PROGRAMS

Construction Activities (Short-term trackwork items requiring a special program)

- **Grand Central Madison – Contractor Maintenance** – On the weekends of August 12-13 and August 19-20, one of two main tracks will be out of service between Grand Central Madison and Plaza Interlocking for a period of approximately 50 hours to support various maintenance activities.
 - **Temporary Service Adjustments:** With one of two main tracks out of service, diversions will be required on multiple branches:
 - Hempstead Branch trains will terminate/originate at Atlantic Terminal.
 - West Hempstead Branch trains will terminate/originate in Jamaica.

- All Port Washington Branch trains currently originating/terminating at Grand Central Madison will be diverted to operate to/from Penn Station.
- All Huntington Branch trains currently originating/terminating at Grand Central Madison will be diverted to operate to/from Penn Station.

- **Jamaica – Van Wyck Bridge Waterproofing** – On the weekends of August 26-27, portions of infrastructure just west of Jamaica will be taken out of service while the Van Wyck Bridge is waterproofed.
 - **Temporary Service Adjustments:** In support of the Van Wyck Bridge waterproofing, West Hempstead and Babylon Branch trains will operate on adjusted schedules.

- **Main Line – Concrete Tie and Switch Installation** – On the weekend of September 16-17, two of three main tracks between Queens and Merillon Avenue, and one of two main tracks between Hicksville and Bethpage will be taken out of service for a switch installation near Floral Park, and also for concrete tie installation and rail replacement between Hicksville and Bethpage.
 - **Temporary Service Adjustments:** In support of the switch and concrete tie installation on the Main Line, service adjustments will be required on the Huntington, Ronkonkoma, and Oyster Bay Branches.

IMPACT ON FUNDING

Funding for these projects is contained in the Long Island Rail Road Operating and MTA Capital Program budget.