

For Release IMMEDIATE

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# MTA Long Island Rail Road to Operate 10 Extra Trains to Kick Off Memorial Day Weekend; Enhanced Summer Service to Fire Island and Hamptons Begins

Kicking off the unofficial start to summer, the Long Island Rail Road is adding 10 extra trains from Penn Station on Friday, May 24, 2019, for customers planning an early getaway for the upcoming long weekend.

Over this Memorial Day weekend, the LIRR will operate on a regular weekend schedule on Saturday and Sunday and on a holiday schedule on Memorial Day, May 27.

The LIRR is the best way to avoid traffic congestion on Long Island highways, and is the best route to beaches, barbeques, wine country, and other popular destinations. Also starting this weekend, extra summer service on the Montauk Branch begins -- full details on added service below.

## The 10 extra Friday afternoon trains will depart from Penn Station at these times:

## **Babylon Branch**

- 2:22 p.m. express to Rockville Centre, then making all local stops to Babylon.
- 2:32 p.m. express to Lynbrook, then making all local stops to Babylon.
- 3:00 p.m. stopping at Jamaica, Rockville Centre, then making all local stops to Babylon.
- 3:31 p.m. express to Rockville Centre, then making all local stops to Babylon.

# **Far Rockaway Branch**

3:48 p.m. express to Locust Manor, then making all local stops to Far Rockaway.

#### **Port Jefferson Branch**

2:08 p.m. stopping at Jamaica, Mineola, then making all local stops to Huntington.

- 2:29 p.m. stopping at Forest Hills, Kew Gardens, Jamaica, New Hyde Park, then making all local stops to Huntington.
- 3:24 p.m. stopping at Jamaica, Mineola, Westbury, and Hicksville.

# **Port Washington Branch**

• 3:40 p.m. stopping at Woodside, Flushing Main Street, then making all local stops to Great Neck.

#### Ronkonkoma Branch

• 1:59 p.m. train stopping at Woodside, Jamaica, Mineola, Hicksville, then making all stops to Ronkonkoma.

#### Extra Summer Service Starts on the Montauk Branch

This weekend marks the beginning of a major summer service increase to the South Fork of Long Island via the LIRR's Montauk Branch, with several extra eastbound trains running on Fridays and extra westbound trains returning on Sundays.

- The LIRR offers two Friday-only trains designed for Fire Island-bound customers. These trains stop for Fire Island ferry connections at Bay Shore, Sayville and Patchogue. Customers boarding at Penn Station can connect for these trains via the 7:39 a.m. Ronkonkoma Branch train (change at Jamaica for the Patchogue train), and the 10:54 Babylon train to Babylon (change at Babylon for the Patchogue train). Connections also available from Atlantic Terminal, Brooklyn.
- A Hamptons-bound train departs Hunterspoint Avenue at 1:47 p.m. and connects at Jamaica with the 1:42 p.m. train from Penn Station. The train will run express to Westhampton then make all stops to Montauk.
- The Cannonball, which departs Penn Station at 4:06 p.m., then runs express to Westhampton, Southampton, Bridgehampton, East Hampton and Montauk.
- Change at Jamaica for the 7:23 p.m. express train running to Patchogue, Mastic-Shirley, Westhampton, then all stops to Montauk. This train receives passengers from the 6:56 p.m. train from Penn Station, 6:59 p.m. train from Atlantic Terminal and 6:41 p.m. train from Hunterspoint Avenue.

Returning on Sunday night, the LIRR offers five extra Sunday night departures arriving in New York City between 1:26 p.m. and 8:27 p.m., including the westbound Cannonball which departs Montauk at 6:37 p.m., and an extra Monday morning train that departs Montauk at 7:28 a.m. and connects at Jamaica for a 10:34 a.m. arrival at Penn Station.

## Many Channels for Service 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.

**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.

**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.

MTA.info— "Service Status" on the homepage of new.mta.info, and at the left side of <a href="www.MTA.info">www.MTA.info</a> is always the definitive source for the latest status for each branch, updated every minute. In addition, customers can visit <a href="www.mta.info/lirr">www.mta.info/lirr</a> 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.

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 **onboard 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.

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The most up-to-date information on MTA service status is always available at www.mta.info. For immediate notice of service changes, sign up for email or text alerts at www.mymtaalerts.com. For weekend subway service changes, visit www.mta.info/weekender.

EDITORS AND ASSIGNMENT DESKS: To check the status of any MTA services, use the service status box on www.mta.info rather than calling the MTA Press Office. It is updated directly from our control and command centers and always has the most current status information.

TO CONTACT THE MTA PRESS OFFICE: During normal business hours, call 212-878-7440. After hours and on weekends, for subway, bus, bridge and tunnel information, call 646-370-0391; for commuter railroad information, call 646-370-0394.