

For Release IMMEDIATE

Contact: MTA Press Office (212) 878-7440

# LIRR Adding 13 Extra Afternoon Trains From Penn Station on Friday, December 21, and Monday, December 24, for Holiday Weekend Getaway

Railroad Running on Regular Weekend/Holiday Schedule December 22-23 and 25;
Discounted Family Fare in Effect

MTA Long Island Rail Road is adding 13 trains from Penn Station to its regular eastbound afternoon schedule on Friday, Dec. 21, and again on Monday, Dec. 24, to accommodate the large number of customers leaving work early to get a head start to their holiday weekends and festivities.

The additional departures from Penn Station will be provided between 12:46 p.m. and 3:48 p.m. as follows:

## **Babylon Branch (6 Extra Trains)**

- 1:28 p.m. traveling express to Rockville Centre, then local to Babylon.
- 1:56 p.m. stopping at Jamaica, Rockville Centre, then local to Babylon.
- 2:22 p.m. traveling express to Rockville Centre, then local to Babylon.
- 2:32 p.m. traveling express to Lynbrook, then local to Babylon.
- 3:00 p.m. stopping at Jamaica, Rockville Centre, then local to Babylon.
- 3:31 p.m. traveling express to Rockville Centre, then local to Babylon.

#### Far Rockaway Branch (1 Extra Train)

• 3:48 p.m. stopping at Locust Manor, Laurelton, Rosedale, Valley Stream, then all stops to Far Rockaway.

## Port Jefferson Branch (3 Extra Trains)

• 2:08 p.m. stopping at Jamaica, Mineola, then local to Huntington.

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

## Port Washington Branch (1 Extra Train)

• 3:40 p.m. stopping Woodside, Flushing-Main St., then all stops to Great Neck.

## **Ronkonkoma Branch (2 Extra Trains)**

- 12:46 p.m. stopping at Woodside, Jamaica, Mineola, Hicksville, then local stops to Ronkonkoma.
- 1:49 p.m. stopping at Woodside, Jamaica, Mineola, Hicksville, then local stops to Ronkonkoma.

## Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday, December 22-23 and 25

LIRR will operate on a regular weekend/holiday schedule from Saturday, Dec. 22, and Sunday, Dec. 23, as well as on Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25.

## **Family Fare**

Customers are reminded that the holidays are a great time of year to take advantage of the LIRR's Family Fare. Up to four children (ages 5-11) can ride one-way for \$1 each when accompanied by a fare-paying adult (18 years or older) on any Off-Peak or PM Peak train. Additional children pay the LIRR's Child Fare, which is 50% off the regular adult peak fare. Children under age 5 always ride the LIRR for free.

## **Many Channels for Services 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:

**Email and text message service updates** – Customers are urged to sign up to receive the alerts by visiting <u>MyMTAAlerts.com</u>. To avoid unwanted messages, a user can tailor the messages to the specific branch, and the specific times of day.

**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.

**MTA.info** – The rail tab of the "Service Status" box 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.

The 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 **on-board 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.