

## Here's what local officials have to say about the Double Track Project:

"Adding a second track between Farmingdale and Ronkonkoma on the LIRR makes sense for commuters and for the region. It will improve service, create jobs and stimulate economic activity along this critical stretch of the LIRR. The Rt. 110 employment corridor, MacArthur Airport and a number of projects in development like the Wyandanch Rising and Ronkonkoma Hub all will benefit from more reliable and more frequent train service."

-- Gov. Andrew Cuomo

"A second track will reduce commuting times, facilitate the flow of workers into and out of Long Island, spur the growth of MacArthur Airport and create a job creation corridor right down the center of the Island. When you look at the amount of time saved and the number of people it affects, it is clear that this is one of the most important public transportation projects in the entire country."

-- United States Senator from NY, Charles E. Schumer

"The second track project brings tremendous benefits; jobs, economic development for Long Island, and improved service for LIRR riders. That's why we fought so hard to make sure work starts now, not in 2015. Accelerating this project will allow that to happen and ensure that a project which has long been a dream finally becomes a reality."

-- NY State Senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Chairman of the Senate's Transportation Committee

"The announcement of \$138 million in accelerated funding to build the second track project is a huge win for Long Islanders. The impact of this important return on our investment will boost our region's strength, and specifically our economy. This will create jobs, improve our tax base, and make Long Island a better place to work and raise a family."

-- NY State Senator Lee Zeldin

"Accelerating the Double Track project is a win for Long Island and will promote economic development in both Suffolk and Nassau Counties. Long Island faces many transportation challenges. However, the acceleration of the Double Track project will open up new opportunities for transportation as well as transit oriented development, which is economically beneficial to the Long Island region."

-- Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone

"Double track will support development of the Wyandanch Rising project. It will also provide boundless economic opportunities for the East Farmingdale/Route 110 Corridor and the region as a whole."

-- Rich Schaffer, Babylon Town Supervisor

"Islip residents who commute to work in Manhattan every day, families who enjoy visiting NY City, and travelers heading to/from LI MacArthur Airport are looking for better mass transit. A more robust LIRR allows our Seniors to participate in life on Long Island and gives young people a reason to stay."

-- Tom Croci, Islip Town Supervisor

"The Double Track Project will vastly improve the on-time performance of the LIRR and residents who use the railroad will certainly feel the impact on a day-to-day basis. Just as important, it will create a much needed boost to the local economy by providing construction jobs for many years to come. I pledge my full support behind getting this project on track and started now."

-- Ed Romaine, Brookhaven Town Supervisor

"The Long Island Rail Road Commuter Council (LIRRCC) views construction of a second track between Farmingdale and Ronkonkoma as a critical project for the Long Island economy. The second track will make travel more convenient, increase capacity significantly, and dramatically reduce the impact of train breakdowns and other incidents in this part of the railroad. This project is vital to users of the LIRR and is long overdue."

-- Mark Epstein, Chairman of the Long Island Rail Road Commuter Council

"The Double Track project will increase service reliability on one of the busiest corridors of the LIRR. We thank Governor Cuomo and Senators Fuschillo and Zeldin for their leadership on the Double Track project and for fully funding the MTA's Capital Plan. They recognize that the LIRR is an economic engine for Long Island, getting residents to highly skilled, high paying jobs. Double Track is a very important project both for the LIRR and for Long Island. It will provide real benefits for decades to come."

-- LIRR President Helena E. Williams



For more information, please visit [mta.info/lirr/doubletrack](http://mta.info/lirr/doubletrack) or contact:

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The Double Track Project will improve service and reliability on the LIRR's Ronkonkoma Branch, spur economic activity, provide hundreds of construction jobs and improve LIRR service to Long Island MacArthur Airport.

Ridership on the LIRR's Ronkonkoma Branch has doubled over the last 25 years, growing in popularity since the line was electrified in 1988. With only one track along the 18 mile stretch between Ronkonkoma and Farmingdale, there is very little flexibility in the event of a service disruption. If one train becomes disabled, all other trains (east and west) have no way around the problem.

Construction of an uninterrupted second track between Farmingdale and Ronkonkoma has been part of the LIRR's vision for decades. There's never been a better time to reduce crowding, prevent delays and boost the local economy by building the Double Track now.



## Economic Development Benefits

- Increased train service to employment centers on Long Island and in New York City
- Off-Peak Half-Hourly Service Frequency to Ronkonkoma
- Improved Train Service to/from Long Island MacArthur Airport
- Improved train service between Queens/Nassau and Suffolk
- Benefit New Residential and Commercial Development Around Train Stations:
  - Projects under development include: Wyandanch, Deer Park, Ronkonkoma
  - Supports redevelopment of village centers and areas around existing LIRR stations
- Paves Way for Possible Reopening of Republic Station to Serve Busy Rte 110 Economic Hub and Employment Center

## Customer & Community Benefits

- **NO Property Acquisition is Needed**
  - Double Track Will Be Completed Entirely Within the Existing LIRR Right-of-Way
- **Service Enhancements**
  - Allows for Half-Hourly, Off-Peak Service in both directions
  - More choices for those who commute between stations on Long Island
  - Better train service to/from Long Island MacArthur Airport
  - Increased Reverse Peak Service
- **More Reliable Train Service on One of the LIRR's Busiest Branches**
  - Improve On-Time Performance (OTP) to make commuting by rail more dependable (91.2% of Ronkonkoma morning rush hour trains ran on-time in 2011 versus system-wide average of 93.2%)
  - Faster recovery from service disruptions
  - Relieve strain on single track capacity
- **Supports Opportunities for Additional Rail Service in the Future**
  - Provides opportunity for reopening of a Republic LIRR station to serve the busy Rt. 110 employment corridor

## Construction Benefits

- Will Create Hundreds of Construction Jobs Over the Next 5 Years and Opportunities for Long Island Businesses
  - General Contractors
  - Architects/Engineers
  - Material Suppliers
  - Trucking
  - Demolition
  - Paving
  - Concrete
  - Steel
  - Electrical
  - Grading
  - Drainage
  - Fencing
  - Landscaping
  - Painting
  - Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)
  - Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)
  - Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBEs)
  - Small Businesses

## Schedule

- \$138M Committed to Expedite Double Track May 2012
- Phase I - Awarded Design/Environmental Contract July 2012
- Phase I - Design/Build Award and Construction November 2013 - September 2016
- Phase II - Preliminary Design January 2015 - September 2015
- Phase II - Design/Build Award and Construction April 2016 - December 2018

