

Supervisor Romaine Speaks in Support of the LIRR Double Track Project at Ronkonkoma Press Briefing

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Supervisor Ed Romaine addresses the media during the LIRR Double Track Project press briefing held at the Ronkonkoma train station

Farmingville, NY - On January 16, Supervisor Ed Romaine joined federal, state and county officials at an MTA briefing and preview of the Long Island Railroad's Double Track Project. Supervisor Romaine spoke in full support of the \$138 million project during the event which was held at the Double Track Information Center at the LIRR Ronkonkoma station. Other elected officials at the event were Senator Charles Schumer, Congressman Tim Bishop, County Legislator Wayne Horsley and Islip Town Supervisor Tom Croci.

Supervisor Romaine said, "The service improvements that will come as a result of the Double Track project will benefit people who currently ride the train, and make commuting a more attractive option for those who are considering a move out to the island. This will also give a real boost to our local economy by creating hundreds of jobs during the design and construction phases of the project. The Double Track has been a long time in coming and I join my fellow elected officials in support and praise of the MTA for bringing this project to fruition."

Supervisor Romaine also noted that the Double Track Project will be of great benefit to the Ronkonkoma Hub transit oriented redevelopment plan which is designed to transform the blighted area north of the Ronkonkoma LIRR station into a vibrant, multi-use, residential and commercial center.

The preliminary design phase of the Double Track Project will begin in 2015 and construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2018. Since the Ronkonkoma line was electrified in 1988, there has been only one track from Farmingdale to Ronkonkoma, limiting flexibility in the system when service disruptions occur. These disruptions can cause delays throughout the system and affect thousands of commuters.

For more information about the LIRR's Double Track Project, go to www.mta.info/lirr/doubletrack or visit the Double Track Information Center at the LIRR Ronkonkoma station.

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One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258