

September 2019

GARDEN CITY & GARDEN CITY PARK

Significant progress has been made on the LIRR Expansion Project from Floral Park to Hicksville, one of the region's most noteworthy transportation infrastructure projects. While the duration and intensity of work depends on the project element under construction, the 3rd Track Constructors team is phasing in specific project elements to reduce the amount of disruption in any given community at any given time.

During the month of September, you will see crews continuing construction activities in Garden City and Garden City Park. By way of explanation:

Merillon Avenue Station Enhancement



- Significant progress has been made by the 3TC construction team on the new Merillon Avenue Station – the western halves of the platform on the north and south sides of the tracks that were removed in June and July have been rebuilt and reopened. Temporary platforms have been installed to accommodate six-car station access
- Similar to the work seen and heard during August, the construction crews, in the month of September, will:
 - Complete the removal of the eastern halves of the platform on the north and south sides of the tracks so that they may be rebuilt
 - Excavate the area and set pre-cast footings, and set rebar and pour piers
- Signage will be displayed to alert commuters of the ongoing construction activities
- To board/exit trains at Merillon Avenue Station, please be prepared to board and exit all trains (westbound and eastbound) from the [first six \(6\) cars](#)
- Once this project element is completed, the new platforms will accommodate 12-car trains, instead of limited to the 10-car train lengths today

Nassau Boulevard Bridge Replacement Project

- Just east of Merillon Avenue Station, work continues on the Nassau Boulevard Bridge Replacement Project:
 - In the Merillon Avenue Station parking lot and on the northwest side of the Nassau Boulevard roadway, crews from 3TC are building the new three-bay bridge structure
 - During the next Main Line double track outage, over the weekend of October 4-7, the existing bridge will be removed and the newly built, three-bay bridge structure will be rolled in, in a similar fashion to what was done at [Cherry Lane](#)
- To prepare the existing area for the new bridge, the following activities will take place:
 - Excavating and setting pre-cast footings
 - Setting formwork and installing rebar supports for the new bridge
 - Installing a retaining wall and widening the bridge abutments
- Replacement of Nassau Boulevard Bridge will be completed in less than three months, significantly reducing impacts on drivers, commuters, nearby residents, among others. To achieve this rapid timeline on such a major construction project, there will be temporary detours for drivers and pedestrians:
 - As this will be an active construction area, partial and full road closures are essential to ensure the safety of drivers, pedestrians and workers
 - Nassau Boulevard is currently limited to a single, southbound lane and at least one pedestrian sidewalk under the bridge is available
 - In order to “roll in” the new bridge, Nassau Boulevard from Atlantic Avenue to Main/Merillon Avenue will fully close (both northbound and southbound) to pedestrians and vehicular traffic from September 30 to October 8
 - In coordination with local officials, the LIRR Expansion Project team developed a traffic management plan that guides drivers to use alternate routes

Replacement Parking for Merillon Avenue Station and Nassau Boulevard Bridge Work

- Portions of the parking lot at Merillon Avenue Station continues to be utilized by the construction team
 - Replacement parking is provided north of Merillon Avenue Station, along Broadway, between County Courthouse Road and Herricks Road, **on the south side of the street**
 - In coordination with the Town of North Hempstead, parking restrictions will be lifted for the duration of these project activities
 - Once the bridge replacement is complete, the majority of the parking spaces will be returned to service

Nassau 1 Interlocking

- The project includes substantial improvements to the Nassau 1 Interlocking, where trains switch from track-to-track at junctions or crossings
 - Work during the month of September, which will include overnight and weekend work, will feature:
 - LIRR crews working along the right-of-way to elevate the track bed to meet the new height that will come with the new Nassau Boulevard Bridge
 - LIRR work trains will deliver ballast; LIRR work trains and crews will tamp down the delivered ballast
 - During the overnight work, LIRR crews will be out in force and to maintain their safety, lights, flag personnel, and other precautions will be deployed

New Hyde Park Road Grade Crossing Elimination Project

- Following the reopening of Covert Avenue in New Hyde Park, work will begin on the New Hyde Park Road Grade Crossing Elimination project
 - A temporary bypass road will be constructed, in advance of major construction activities beginning, to avoid a complete shutdown of the very busy New Hyde Park Road
- The New Hyde Park Road grade crossing in New Hyde Park and Garden City is one of eight street-level crossings along the LIRR Main Line that will be eliminated as part of the LIRR Expansion Project from Floral Park to Hicksville
- The elimination of this grade crossing will bring immediate benefits to the local community and commuters in terms of improved LIRR service reliability, a safer and uninterrupted flow of traffic, and reduced noise from train horns
- The New Hyde Park Road grade crossing is being reconstructed to feature a new, five-lane underpass with pedestrian sidewalks on the east and west sides of the underpass. There will also be a dedicated left-turn lane from southbound New Hyde Park Road to Clinch Avenue
- This reconstructed grade crossing was designed in conjunction with the Village of New Hyde Park and the Village of Garden City and will enhance safety and provide for a quieter and more livable community along the railroad
- In September, you will begin to see crews preparing for this project element
 - Crews will drill soldier piles on the southwest side of New Hyde Park Road, in the grassy area just west of the active roadway
 - Sections of soldier piles are installed by vibratory hammers, in sequence, forming the wall for earth support
 - This activity is not anticipated to require a lane reduction along New Hyde Park Road

New Hyde Park Road Traffic Alteration

- As a result of feedback from emergency service personnel and elected officials in New Hyde Park and Garden City, traffic along New Hyde Park Road, south of the tracks, will be modified
- A barrier will be placed in the middle of New Hyde Park Road, at the intersection with Clinch Avenue
 - For vehicles traveling southbound on New Hyde Park Road, the new barrier will prevent left turns onto southbound Clinch Avenue
 - For vehicles traveling northbound on Clinch Avenue, the new barrier will prevent left turns onto southbound New Hyde Park Road
- Signage will be placed in and around the intersection to ensure driver safety

Wall Construction

- As part of 3TC's commitment to the community, the installation of retaining and sound walls will improve the quality of life for residents living near and around the LIRR tracks
 - From New Hyde Park Road to Herricks Road along the right-of-way on the south side of the tracks:
 - Support of excavation work will begin, in advance of the construction of a retaining wall
 - Crews will also begin installation of a ground-mounted sound wall parallel to the retaining wall
 - From Nassau Boulevard to Herricks Road, specifically, crews will continue to install wall sections, on top of the existing retaining wall, along the north of the tracks

LIRR Work along the Railroad Right-of-Way

- In addition and complementary to 3TC's activities, you may see or hear LIRR forces working along the railroad right-of-way. These activities may include:
 - Regular track inspection and maintenance; Rail tie replacement; Grade crossing elimination preparatory work
- To avoid LIRR service interruptions during peak commuting hours, LIRR work along the railroad right-of-way may take place overnight and on weekends
- We recognize that these activities may be disruptive and we remain committed to seeing the work completed in as short of a time frame as possible, all while maintaining safe and reliable operations
- For more information, visit the [post](#) in the Community News section of LIRRExpansion.com

LIRR Station Access and Service Changes

- For up-to-date service changes and/or changes to station access, please visit www.MTA.info/LIRR

Your Garden City Community Ambassadors



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A better commute • Less congestion • Cleaner Air • Safer, quieter crossings
Station improvements & parking • Better jobs • Stronger economy • Noise reduction

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