



A Broad Coalition of Long Islanders in Support of the Long Island Rail Road Expansion Project to Build a Third Track from Floral Park to Hicksville

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Right Track for Long Island Coalition Applauds Final Environmental Impact Statement on LIRR Expansion Project

Melville, New York – (April 12, 2017) – Following the release of the MTA’s Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on the LIRR’s Expansion Project, the Right Track for Long Island Coalition applauded the report as an important milestone, sustaining momentum for the project. The release of the FEIS signals the end of a year-long process which gave the public several opportunities to offer comments and questions on everything from design to construction details and community impact. Those public meetings resulted in additional mitigation efforts and new elements, meant to meet the needs of the villages most directly impacted.

“The process around the EIS was incredibly inclusive, and looking at the new report it’s clear the project team not only listened to the public’s concerns and suggestions, but they established a new level of community engagement and cooperation,” said **Dave Kapell, Executive Director of Right Track for Long Island Coalition**. “The FEIS confirms that the third track will greatly improve the quality of life for both residents and commuters within and beyond the corridor. Everyday life along the main line will no longer include a painful search for parking, deteriorating stations and obtrusive and constant horn blasts. Additionally, the construction effort will be mitigated beyond reasonable expectation to ensure those communities most impacted will be able to maintain their day-to-day lives as the project gets underway. We are grateful to all the elected officials and residents who participated in this process and contributed to the creation of a plan that will benefit every Long Islander.”

The Right Track for Long Island Coalition is a grassroots group made up of 385 businesses, labor unions, non-profits, municipal organizations, elected officials from throughout the region and individuals, now representing over 2 million Long Islanders. As of March 2017, supporters include bipartisan elected leaders within the corridor, such as Westbury Mayor Peter Cavallaro, Mineola Mayor Scott Strauss, Oyster Bay Supervisor Joe Saladino, Assemblyman Michael Montesano, Nassau County Legislator Rose Walker, Oyster Bay Councilmembers Tony Macagnone and Rebecca Alessia and North Hempstead Councilwoman Viviana Russell. These Nassau officials are joined by in Suffolk County by the Suffolk County Executive, the Supervisors of Huntington, Babylon, Islip, Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton towns, a councilperson from Smithtown, and the Mayors of Port Jefferson and Patchogue.

The Coalition was formed as a collaborative effort to support the LIRR Expansion Project, which is a top economic, environmental and transit priority for Long Island and will help retain and attract the young people and new business essential for the future health of the region.

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The Right Track for Long Island Coalition is a partnership of major organizations, institutions, businesses and individuals representing over 2 million Long Islanders and growing that have come together to support the LIRR Expansion Project. Read more at [@RightTrackforLI](http://www.righttrackforlongisland.com/Facebook/Right-Track-for-Long-Island-Coalition)