

NICE Port Washington Shuttle Expands Service Area to Serve More LIRR Commuters

Port Washington community teams with NICE bus to expand existing Shore Road Shuttle to a larger footprint reaching more LIRR riders with "first and last mile" options and improving station parking shortage; rides will be free for the inaugural two weeks of service, May 28 – June 10

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 23, 2019: NICE's Shore Road Shuttle will be expanded to serve more LIRR commuters in Port Washington with a new route that serves the Soundview Community north of the village area beginning May 28. The service has also been renamed Port Washington Shuttle, reflecting the expanded service area.

The Port Washington Shuttle service will be free for the first two weeks of service: May 28 through June 10.

The new service route through Soundview will provide morning and evening peak commuter service to the Port Washington LIRR and connections to NICE bus routes with a free transfer. The shuttle then continues its mid-morning service along West Shore Road, servicing businesses surrounding the Roslyn Clock Tower, Industrial Park, and Fairway Drive among other established stops. More information is available at www.nicebus.com

"Port Washington came to us looking for a solution to help alleviate its traffic congestion and lack of parking around the LIRR station, so it made sense to expand the shuttle's footprint to cover more of the area," said Jack Khzouz, NICE Bus CEO. "In an effort to maximize efficiency, we were able to redesign the current footprint to support both the West Shore Road needs and the Soundview needs. We are constantly analyzing and reorganizing routing to better serve the public, and this happens on a quarterly basis."

Commuter parking is an established challenge at many village parking lots, including Port Washington. The Port Washington Shuttle is a response to this, to gauge the demand of area commuters trying to make it to the station.

Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, who helped organize the service said, "Our residents rely on effective bus service to live fulfilling and productive lives. Not only does this environmentally-friendly effort stand to improve parking conditions at the train station. Expanding this shuttle service pilot will also allow us to better serve the Soundview community while preserving service we restored earlier this year along West Shore Road. I thank our community leaders and our partners in local government and NICE Bus for continuing to work together to make this pilot program successful and sustainable."

Port Washington and Roslyn area residents interested in taking a ride on the Port Washington Shuttle can enjoy FREE fares and transfers for the first two weeks of service: May 28th through June 10th.

The community shuttle pilot launched January 21st, providing weekday service connecting Port Washington and Roslyn communities. It was designed to intersect with Nassau County's greater NICE Bus fixed-route system and will help to provide area businesses with transportation options for their employees. It is being offered on a pilot basis to explore ridership and demand in the Port Washington and Roslyn area with funding through 2019. The ridership usage and demand data will be key in helping these communities advocate for the necessary funding to establish ongoing service.

"We made a strong case for this pilot based on a commuter survey showing over 70% were interested in a shuttle to get to the train," said Mindy Germain, Executive Director Residents Forward. "Lack of parking at the LIRR station has people looking for alternatives, and we encourage residents to take advantage of this great new ride."

Port Washington Shuttle operates weekdays from 6:50 am to 10:30 am and 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Dropoffs and pick-ups are scattered along Soundview Drive and West Shore Road, as well as adjacent roads stopping at the Port Washington LIRR and popular storefronts and businesses. The route also includes hail-only stops to provide added convenience. Riders should be sure they are at the posted pickup to locations, within the operating schedule, and should hail passing shuttles with a hand wave – similar to hailing a taxi in NYC.

Riders can use the shuttle for travel to the Port Washington LIRR station where they can connect with a free transfer to NICE Bus fixed-route n23 service from Mineola to Manorhaven, as well as n20H transfers at the Roslyn Clocktower.

Shuttle fares remain the same as our fixed-route buses at \$2.75 one-way, with NICE GoMobile, MetroCard, and cash (in exact change) payment methods available. Fareboxes do not accept dollar bills.

For a full schedule and additional information visit nicebus.com/PortWashingtonShuttle or call our Transit Information Center at (516) 336-6600. Follow us on social media @thenicebus for service updates and giveaways.

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