

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



JACK M. MARTINS
SENATOR
7TH DISTRICT

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June 20, 2014

Mr. Thomas Prendergast, Chairman & CEO
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
347 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Prendergast:

I am writing to you with regard to the LIRR's contingency plans to serve commuters in the event of a labor strike.

According to the LIRR's preliminary strike contingency plan published in today's *Newsday*, the LIRR plans to open shuttle bus and park & ride lots to serve commuters in the event of an LIRR labor strike. None of these will be located in the Town of North Hempstead.

Not having even one point in the entire 58 square miles of the Town of North Hempstead is completely unacceptable. The Port Washington branch is one of the LIRR's fastest growing branches, with its ridership growing by over 350,000 riders last year. Mineola and Great Neck are two of the LIRR's busiest stations.

Commuters have no say at the negotiating table, but they are the ones who will be most impacted by any potential strike. While no contingency plan will entirely replace the service commuters receive from the LIRR, this plan fails them completely. Simply advising them to stay home should not be the best option.

I strongly urge you to add additional locations so that the over 220,000 residents in the Town of North Hempstead are not excluded from the LIRR's contingency plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack M. Martins".

JACK M. MARTINS
New York State Senator

Cc: Patrick Nowakowski, President, Long Island Rail Road
Supervisor Judi Bosworth, Town of North Hempstead