

**PRESS RELEASE FROM
LEGISLATOR LESLIE KENNEDY.**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 29, 2016

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LESLIE KENNEDY PARTAKES IN PRESS CONFERENCE FOR NEW LIRR LINE



(Legislators Kevin McCaffrey, Leslie Kennedy, and Presiding Office DuWayne Gregory)

August 22nd, 2016 –Last Monday, Legislator Leslie Kennedy (R-Nesconset) attended a press conference held by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to announce the completion of a new rail line for the Long Island Railroad.

The new line runs from Central Islip to Ronkonkoma and is a part of a larger project aimed at transporting folks faster, and more efficiently. The rest of the line, stretching to Farmingdale, is due to be completed in 2018 and will create thirteen miles of parallel track, enabling more off-peak service. This, along with the MTA eTix rollout, East Side Access, and four new Metro-North Stations in the Bronx, serves as a component of the governor's \$100 billion Infrastructure and Development Plan. The completion of the tracks between Ronkonkoma and Central Islip is an important milestone in advancing the MTA's commuter rail priorities.

"New York State is moving aggressively to bring our mass transit systems into the 21st century — not just to meet the needs of our current population, but to foster smart, sensible and sustainable growth," Governor Cuomo said. "Adding a second track to the Ronkonkoma Branch is a project that has been talked about for decades, but was never set into motion. By pairing innovative equipment with our strategy of design-build construction, we are accelerating the pace of these types of critical infrastructure projects to improve Long Island commutes and strengthen the region's economy. Put simply, we are building today for a better tomorrow."

The New Track Construction machine was laying the final stretches of the track, working at a pace ten times faster than any method previously employed by the MTA. The machine also reduces construction costs by 50% and creates a safer working environment on the site.

"I am thrilled to see this project moving forward," Legislator Kennedy said. "Improving our infrastructure goes a long way towards improving life for everybody on Long Island. There is more to come and I am excited to see the results."

For more information about this event or other events in the community, please call our office at (631)-854-3735 or log onto Legislator Kennedy's Facebook page at facebook.com/legislatorlesliekennedy.

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