

Federal Transit Administration

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Long Island Rail Road
Colonial Road Improvement Project
Queens, New York

Environmental Finding

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Long Island Rail Road (MTA LIRR) Colonial Road Improvement Project and has found that there are no significant impacts to the environment as a result of the proposed project. The EA, dated December 2012, has adequately addressed the environmental issues and impacts of the proposed project, which consists of extending the Great Neck pocket track, installing a crossover connecting the pocket track with Main Line track, replacing the Colonial Road Bridge, and improving drainage at the track-level.

In the 30-days after the EA was made available to the public, LIRR received three comments. Each commenter was responded to directly by LIRR. In consideration of the Village of Great Neck Plaza's concerns about local traffic, LIRR committed to providing the Village an opportunity to review and comment on the Maintenance and Protection of Traffic (MPT) Plan before it is finalized. All other mitigation measures are described within the EA, and no changes were made to the EA after it was released to the public.

The EA is consistent with 23 C.F.R. §771 and FTA guidelines for preparing Environmental Assessments entitled: *Keys to Efficient Development of Useful Environmental Documents*. As such, the FTA is issuing a Finding of No Significant Impact for the Project. This FONSI is conditioned upon the MTA LIRR complying with the mitigation measures described in this FONSI and the EA.

Approved: Anthony G. Carr
Anthony G. Carr,
Deputy Regional Administrator, Region II
Federal Transit Administration

Date: 3/12/13