



Five Town Rural Transit, Inc. Board Meets with Long Island Rail Road Management

April 3, 2007, Southampton, NY. Five Town Rural Transit (5TRT), Inc. was invited by Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) Acting President Raymond Kenny to meet with LIRR Management to present its East End Shuttle™ Development Proposal for evaluation and comments. Tom Neely, East End Transportation Council Chair and Town of Southampton Transportation Commission Director, also attended.

The meeting took place on Wednesday, March 28 at LIRR Headquarters in Jamaica, New York. Mr. de Cillia presented the East End Shuttle Development Proposal that his group created with the assistance of volunteer transit experts and which was first presented in December 2005 on the East End. Following the presentation, a group of senior managers representing all facets of the LIRR business commented on the proposal.

According to Mr. de Cillia, “There was frank and open discussion of all aspects of the Shuttle proposal between our 5TRT Board members present and the attending LIRR managers, including our cost estimates, rail equipment recommendations, rider forecasts and even our concept of establishing a Regional Transit Authority (RTA) on the East End to operate any new services that might be developed. Of course, this was not a decision-making meeting, only an introductory session, but we agreed that more contact would take place during the upcoming East End Shuttle Feasibility Study phase, which is expected to be conducted for us by the USDOT Volpe National Transportation Systems Center.”

De Cillia concludes, “Although 5TRT, Inc. and our State Legislators have publicly expressed a preference for forming our own Regional Transit Authority (RTA) on the East End to develop and operate the Shuttle, we have also said that if the MTA and LIRR are willing to develop and operate similar coordinated rail & bus services, we would be willing to alter our preferences. We are now more hopeful this LIRR Management meeting will lead to further discussions and, eventually, greatly improved public transit options for East Enders.”

For more information, contact Hank de Cillia, 5TRT, Inc. Executive Director at:
Tel.: 631 725 2745 Email: decillia@earthlink.net Website: www.eastendshuttle.org