

# The Bulletin



**Electric Railroaders' Association, Incorporated**

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## The Bulletin

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## LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD TO TEST BATTERY-ELECTRIC MULTIPLE UNIT (BEMU) CARS



LIRR President Phillip Eng speaking at the April 19 press conference.

Jeff Erlitz photograph

Long Island Rail Road President Phillip Eng announced on April 19 that the LIRR has entered into an agreement with Alstom to test batteries that could enable their electric railcars to travel on the railroad's non-electrified branches. Upon successful completion of an eight-month initial analysis, technicians will retrofit a two car-long electric train to operate on battery power without passengers on the Oyster Bay Branch. While on electric portions of the route, the train would run on third rail power and charge the batteries, then switch to battery power for the unelectrified segment between East Williston and Oyster Bay. If

successful, the LIRR would ultimately be able to carry passengers directly between Oyster Bay and Penn Station without the need for a transfer, and that technology could expand to the rest of the railroad's diesel branches.

As part of the initial assessment, technicians will investigate whether and where recharging stations might need to be built along the route and along other branches. Recharging would take place in yards when trains are out of service, and, if necessary while in-service, during existing station stops that would not be delayed by recharging.

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## This Month's Cover Photo:

Pacific Electric 606 and Los Angeles Transit Lines 1291 are on S. Main Street at 6th Street on 8/22/1950. Kenneth L Douglas (1929-2017) photograph

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The Genesis of  
"Dashing Dan"  
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