



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

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HAMPTON HOPPER MONTAUK SHUTTLE SERVICE TO RESUME FOR 2021 SEASON, EAST HAMPTON VILLAGE TO MONTAUK ROUTE ADDED

East Hampton Town will reinstate popular free shuttle service with pickups and drop-offs on a Montauk loop; partners with Stony Brook Medicine to provide full-season, 7 -days-a-week, 12-hour service

With a busy summer anticipated as COVID restrictions are lifted, East Hampton Town Supervisor Peter Van Scoyoc arranged expanded bus service to provide easy transport, ease Montauk traffic; complements Town's environmental, sustainability efforts

The East Hampton Town Board voted unanimously yesterday to approve the use of up to \$100,754 in budgeted and surplus funds to pay for the service, which is planned to begin next week and run through Labor Day, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., with two buses making regular stops at 12 Montauk locations from Hither Hills State Park to downtown, the LIRR station, and the dock area.

A new route linking East Hampton Village to Montauk, with a stop in Amagansett, is being added by the Hopper. The additional route is being funded by Stony Brook Southampton Hospital and a suggested fare that is still to be determined. That bus will operate Wednesday through Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:55 p.m.

The Hopper service was well received when initiated in 2018, with ridership increasing as service continued in 2019. It was suspended last year due to COVID-19. State grants that initially covered a large portion of the costs were not available this year. A limited service, underwritten by Stony Brook Medicine, had been planned for this summer until arrangements were made by the town for the full shuttle service.

“I am pleased that the Town is able to reinstate the Montauk shuttle service which was suspended last season due to the pandemic. By offering this free shuttle we advance our goals of reduced emissions, fewer vehicles on the roadways and lesser demands for parking.” said Supervisor Van Scoyoc.

Plans are still being finalized. Bus driver positions are still available; please visit <https://hamptonhopper.com> for more information. A schedule will be announced and posted on the town website at EHamptonny.gov. Service will begin no later than June 26.

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