

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Ottawa, with a light rail train (O-Train) traveling on a track in the foreground. The train is white with red accents and is moving along a curved track. The city buildings are visible in the background, including a prominent clock tower. The sky is overcast.

O-Train Confederation Line Update

SEPT 14 SEPT

All Aboard - September 14!

Four Days Until the Biggest Milestone in Ottawa's Transit History

- Nearly a decade of planning, consulting, designing, constructing, and testing will become a reality this Saturday; and,
- Staff are working around the clock with the Rideau Transit Group (RTG) and Rideau Transit Maintenance (RTM) to ensure the Confederation Line is ready for our customers.

Practice Running Drills

More than 90 drills are occurring between RSA and launch.

Drill scenarios include:

- Overhead catenary system;
- Object in the right-of-way;
- Passenger disturbance emergency;
- Smoke or fire on the train;
- Evacuation on the right-of-way;
- Biohazard;
- Full launch simulation;
- Minor accident investigation; and,
- Etc.

Practice Running Drills *(Cont'd)*

Drill participants included:

- Electric Rail Operators;
- Electric Rail Controllers;
- Electric Rail Supervisors;
- Special Constables Unit;
- Customer Service; and,
- Emergency & Protective Services – EMS, Ottawa Fire and RTM.

These drills ensure staff are ready to handle any event.

Dress Rehearsals

- Simulating the system's service and flow by using 400 City volunteers;
- Allowed for a demonstration of the customer experience, validated key processes and test equipment such as fare gates, wayfinding signage, etc.; and,
- Fresh set of eyes to inspect every element of the system.

Stakeholder Familiarization Tours

Staff are conducting familiarization tours for various stakeholder groups:

- CNIB;
- Association de l'intégration sociale d'Ottawa;
- Council on Aging of Ottawa
- Canadian Council for the Blind;
- Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind;
- MS Society;
- Ottawa Disability Coalition;
- Down Syndrome Association of Ottawa;
- Canadian Hearing Society;
- Canadian Mental Health Association; and,
- Etc.

Customer Outreach

- Signs at bus stops and stations;
- Messaging on octranspo.com, social media, print, online and radio advertising;
- Mailout - two planned:
 1. In mailboxes this week; and,
 2. A second mailout the week of September 23.
- City staff in red vests at every station to help customers.

Station Cleaning

- A full cleaning of all stations and the surrounding areas (including bus loops) is underway prior to the public opening; and,
- City staff are working closely with RTG and RTM to ensure all stations are ready for customers.

Media Event & Ceremonial Ride

- Formal event to officially mark the opening of the line is scheduled for Saturday, September 14 at Tunney's Pasture Station;
- Formal remarks by all three levels of government and representation from Indigenous Leaders; and,
- Guests will then be invited to board a train for the inaugural ride.



Public Opening

- The system will open to the public at 2 pm on September 14;
- City Staff in red vests at all stations to assist customers; and,
- From 2:30 to 4:30 pm, there will be celebrations at all stations along the line involving Councillors, local musicians and art representatives to discuss station artwork.



Key Dates For Customers

- When the line opens, parallel bus routes will remain in service for three weeks;
- On Sunday, October 6, the bus network will undergo major changes to align with Line 1 service and the parallel bus service will end;
- Customers should use the Travel Planner on octranspo.com to find out how their route will change;
- OC Transpo staff will be at all stations to help you - look for staff in red vests;
- Check your mailbox – notices with important system information were mailed out starting Friday, September 6 and throughout this week; and,
- A second notice will be sent to residents' mailboxes the week of September 23 to prepare for the end of parallel service.

Service Adjustments In September

- Service adjustments on Saturday, September 14 include:
 - Bus service at Blair Station will be adjusted to serve the new bus platforms adjacent to the access to the O-Train platforms;
 - Westbound bus stop on Albert Street at Bayview Station will be moved west, adjacent to the station plaza;
 - The entrance into St-Laurent Station from Tremblay Road will reopen; and,
 - Fare-paid zones at Tunney's Pasture, Hurdman, Blair and Bayview stations come into effect.
- Service adjustments on Monday, Sept. 16 include:
 - Eastbound afternoon service on Routes 22, 30, 33, 34, 38, 221, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, and 237 from downtown will serve Blair Station, to allow O-Train Line 1 connections.

Service Integration & Expansion

Removal of Bus Route Detour scheduled to begin week of October 6. The timing for the removal of the detours will be confirmed as details are finalized.

- MTO Responsibility for reinstatement:
 - Opening of the 417 westbound to 174 eastbound ramp; and,
 - Opening of the 417 eastbound on ramp from Lees Avenue;

- RTG responsibility for reinstatement:
 - Conversion of the bus-only lane on Nicholas Street northbound to a general traffic lane, including the reintroduction of the northbound right turn movement from Nicholas to eastbound Laurier;
 - Reassignment of the space dedicated to the bus lanes on Laurier between Nicholas and Waller, so that two general traffic lanes and one bicycle lane in each direction are provided;

Service Integration & Expansion *(Cont'd)*

- RTG responsibility for reinstatement *(Con't)*:
 - Removal of the eastbound overhead bus lane designation signs of the curb lanes on Scott Street between Tunney's Pasture and Bayview Road;
 - Replacement of westbound overhead bus lane designation signs of the curb lane on Albert Street between Booth Street and Preston Street with side mounted bus lane signs; and,
- City of Ottawa responsibility for reinstatement:
 - Signage changes on westbound OR 174 between Blair and the Split to remove bus only lanes.

Service Integration & Expansion *(Cont'd)*

- Additional service adjustments on Sunday, October 6 include:
 - Over 100 routes will make a convenient connection with O-Train Line 1;
 - Bus volumes through downtown on Albert/Slater will be reduced;
 - New and faster connections, shorter waiting times, and more capacity in communities across the city, funded by \$5.1 million approved by Council in the transit budget; and,
 - Many routes renumbered.
- Information is being provided to transit customers through many channels; and,
- Staff will remain in place to assist customers until late October, with the option to extend if necessary - look for staff in red vests.



Questions?