



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT / MESSAGE D'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC

For immediate release:
June 18, 2010

O-Train to be upgraded this summer

Ottawa – The O-Train will undergo major upgrades this summer, including improvements to the track infrastructure, the signal system, trains and the Rideau River Bridge, to ensure continued safety and service reliability. As a result, the O-Train will not be operating for a five-week period, from July 12 to August 14, inclusive.

During this time, OC Transpo will offer a replacement bus route that will run parallel to the O-Train and service stops adjacent to all five O-Train stations between LeBreton and South Keys. Frequency of service will be the same or better. However, the entire trip from Greenboro to Bayview will take longer than by train. The bus route will have limited stops in order to speed up service. Customers should plan their trips accordingly.

The rail rehabilitation work will result in a quieter and smoother ride, lower operating and maintenance costs, and reduced wear and tear on the trains. Coinciding with the track upgrade, the trains will have their propulsion system upgraded, gear box replaced and powerpacks overhauled. This work will extend their life expectancy and improve service reliability and performance.

Lifecycle maintenance work on the Rideau River and Beech Street Bridges, the Walkley overpass and the Dow's Lake tunnel will also be conducted at the same time to limit inconvenience to riders.

Total cost of the upgrades is \$5.11M. City Council approved \$4.51M in capital funding for this project. The City of Ottawa received \$300,000 through the federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund for track rehabilitation and associated works. The province also contributed \$300,000 for these works.

Regular O-Train service is scheduled to resume on Sunday, August 15.

For more details on the O-Train replacement bus service and schedule or to find out other bus route alternatives, travel planning help is available. Please call 613-741-4390 or visit octranspo.com.

- 30 -

For more information:

Media contact
613-580-2450

Public inquiries
613-741-4390