
Overview Report

What Is Stage 1 of the OLRT Project?

1. Scope of Overview Report

1. This overview report provides a summary of Stage 1 of the Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project (OLRT Project).
2. This report is divided into two parts and addresses the following topics:
 - a. The scope of Stage 1
 - b. The parties involved and their respective roles

2. The Scope of Stage 1

3. Stage 1 is the first part of the OLRT Project. The scope of Stage 1 includes the following:
 - a. Design and construction of the light rail transit (LRT) system known as the Confederation Line (or O-Train Line 1)
 - b. Design and construction of a Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) for the LRT system located on Belfast Road
 - c. Widening of Highway 417 between Nicholas Street and Ottawa Road 174¹
4. The budget for Stage 1 was set at approximately \$2.1 billion, with an additional \$115 million contingency.²
5. The Confederation Line is a twin track electric LRT system operating as an east–west transit route through the City of Ottawa (City) from Blair Station to Tunney’s Pasture Station.
6. The two maps in [Appendix A](#) show the Confederation Line. The first map in Appendix A identifies the stations of the Confederation Line by their current names

DISCLAIMER

Please note that in accordance with the Commission’s Rules of Procedure, the statements in this Overview Report may be challenged or supplemented through evidence led before the Commission or submissions made to the Commissioner. The Commissioner will consider all the evidence entered in the Commission’s public hearings in determining the weight to be ascribed to anything contained in the Overview Report.

(current May 2022). The second map marks the Confederation Line on a map of the City, marks the stations (using their names current in 2013), and marks the location of the MSF.

7. The Confederation Line is comprised of approximately 12.5 kilometres of new electric light rail. The line includes the following:
 - a. An underground transit tunnel in the downtown core, approximately 2.5 kilometres long.³ The downtown tunnel runs from just east of Pimisi Station (at LeBreton Flats) to just north of uOttawa Station, at the University of Ottawa campus.
 - b. Approximately 10 kilometres of the line at ground level. These parts of the line at ground level were converted from the previous bus rapid transit (BRT) system (known as the Transitway) to electric LRT.⁴
8. The Confederation Line stops at 13 stations running from Blair Station in the east to Tunney's Pasture Station in the west. Of those 13 stations, 3 stations (Lyon, Parliament, and Rideau) are located in the downtown tunnel.
9. Stage 1 includes 34 light rail vehicles (LRVs, also referred to as rolling stock) for the twin track electric LRT system.⁵ These LRVs are connected in pairs to operate as commuter trains on the Confederation Line.⁶ The LRVs are Citadis Spirit models manufactured by Alstom Transport Canada Inc. (formerly Alstom Power & Transport Canada Inc.)
10. The Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) was constructed on Belfast Road, south of the Confederation Line and connected to the line by a tunnel.⁷ The MSF is where the LRVs are maintained and stored and where other administrative work is conducted.⁸

3. The Parties and Their Respective Roles

11. A diagram in [Appendix B](#) shows the parties involved in the OLRT Project and their respective roles.
12. Stage 1 of the OLRT Project is a public-private partnership (P3) between the City and Rideau Transit Group General Partnership (RTG). RTG is a consortium comprised of ACS Infrastructure Canada, EllisDon and SNC-Lavalin. The partners

of RTG are ACS RTG Partner Inc., SNC RTG Partner Inc. and EllisDon RTG Partner Inc.⁹

13. The Confederation Line is publicly owned by the City. It is operated by OC Transpo Corporation, the public transit provider for the City.
14. The City and RTG entered into a Project Agreement dated February 12, 2013, regarding Stage 1.¹⁰ The Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (Infrastructure Ontario, or IO) acted as Commercial Procurement Lead to the City (See the Overview Report: Role of Infrastructure Ontario in the OLRT Project.)
15. The Project Agreement uses a model and structure that addresses how to design, build, finance, and maintain a construction project. The Project Agreement requires the following:
 - a. RTG is to design and construct the Confederation Line.
 - b. RTG is to finance a portion of the construction costs.
 - c. RTG is to maintain the Confederation Line over a 30-year period.
 - d. RTG is to rectify, at its own cost and expense, any issues with the design and construction works, the system, and any part of those during the term of the project.¹¹
 - e. The City is to fund the construction of Stage 1 with contributions of up to \$600 million each from the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada.¹²
16. RTG subsequently contracted the design, construction, and maintenance of the Confederation Line to affiliates and subcontractors. These include the following:
 - a. **Construction**—Ottawa Light Rail Transit Constructors (OLRT-C), an unincorporated joint venture comprised of Dragados Canada, Inc., SNC-Lavalin Constructors (Pacific) Inc., and EllisDon Corporation
 - b. **Engineering**—RTG Engineering Joint Venture (RTGEJV), an unincorporated joint venture comprised of WSP Canada Inc. and SNC-Lavalin Inc.
 - c. **Maintenance**—Rideau Transit Maintenance General Partnership (RTM), comprised of its partners, ACS RT Maintenance Partner Inc., SNC ProTrans RT Maintenance Partner Inc., and EllisDon RT Maintenance Partner Inc.
 - d. **Vehicles and Signaling**—Alstom Power & Transport Canada Inc. (vehicles) and Thales Canada Inc. (signaling system)
17. The contracts noted above include the following:

- a. the Construction Contract dated February 12, 2013, with OLRT-C for the performance of RTG's construction obligations under the Project Agreement, including the construction of the Confederation Line.¹³
 - b. the Maintenance Contract with RTM dated February 12, 2013, for the performance of RTG's maintenance obligations under the Project Agreement.¹⁴
 18. OLRTC provided parental guarantees and an irrevocable letter of credit to RTG under the Construction Contract.
 19. RTM provided parental guarantees and an irrevocable letter of credit to RTG under the Maintenance Contract.
 20. The Project Agreement defines the Required Revenue Service Availability Date as May 24, 2018.
 21. Alstom Transport Canada Inc. is the current entity which is both the subcontracted supplier/manufacturer and the maintainer of the 34 LRVs.¹⁵
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NOTES

¹ City of Ottawa. *Project Charter – Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project, Phase 1, Increment 1*. (October 26, 2011). (COM0000235)

² Ottawa, *Project Charter: OLRT Project, Phase I, Increment 1*. (COM0000235)

³ Ottawa, *Project Charter: OLRT Project, Phase I, Increment 1*. (COM0000235)

⁴ Ottawa, *Project Charter: OLRT Project, Phase I, Increment 1*. (COM0000235)

⁵ OLRT Constructors and Alstom Power & Transport Canada Inc., *Subcontract Agreement Relating to the Supply of Rail Vehicles for the Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project, February 12, 2013*. (ALS0007792)

⁶ Transportation Safety Board of Canada, *Rail Safety Advisory Letter 617-02/21: Roller bearing failure resulting in derailment of Ottawa Light Rail Transit vehicle, September 27, 2021*. (COM0001435)

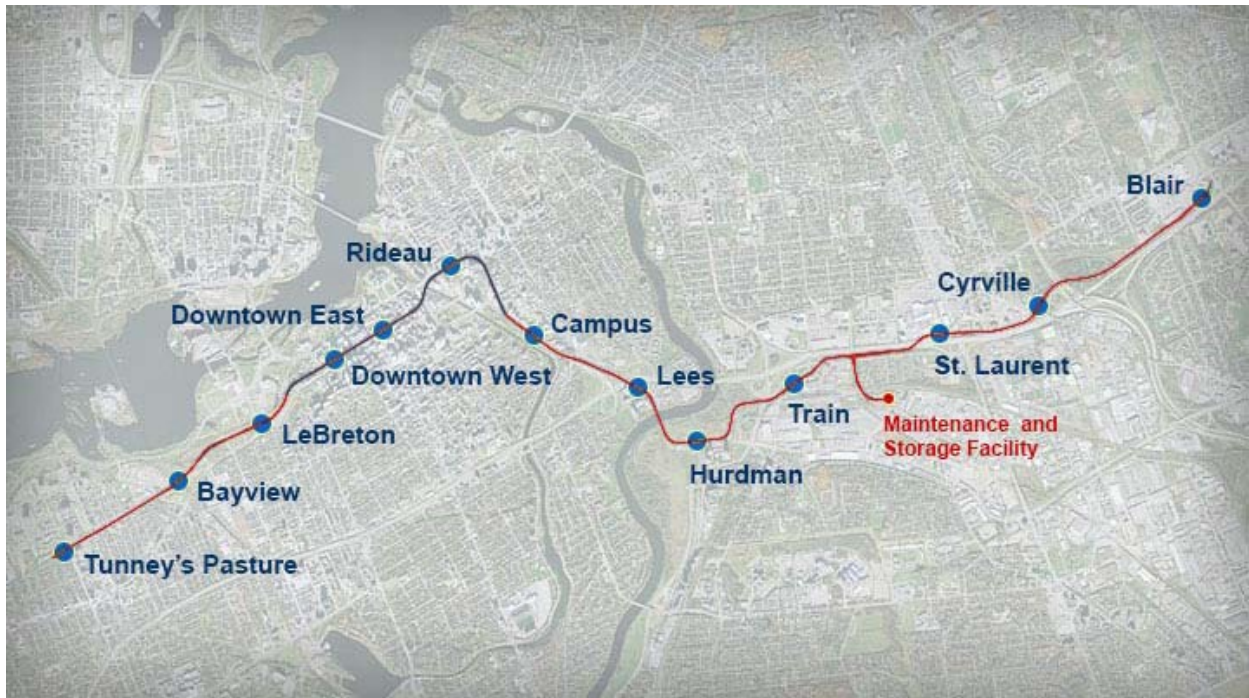
⁷ City of Ottawa and Rideau Transit Group, *Confederation Line Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) Background*, n.d. (COM0001910)

- ⁸ Ottawa and RTG, *Confederation Line MSF Backgrounder*. (COM0001910)
- ⁹ City of Ottawa and Rideau Transit Group General Partnership, Project Agreement: Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project, February 12, 2013. (COM0000158)
- ¹⁰ Ottawa and RTG, Project Agreement. (COM0000158)
- ¹¹ Ottawa and RTG, Project Agreement. (COM0000158)
- ¹² Canada and City of Ottawa, Contribution Agreement between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Transport (“Canada”) and City of Ottawa, December 19, 2012. (COM0001314)
- ¹³ Rideau Transit Group General Partnership and OLRT Constructors, Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project: Construction Contract, February 12, 2013. (ALS0006570)
- ¹⁴ Rideau Transit Group General Partnership and Rideau Transit Maintenance General Partnership, Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project: Maintenance Contract, February 12, 2013. (RTC02549937)
- ¹⁵ OLRT Constructors and Alstom, Subcontract Agreement, Supply of Rail Vehicles. (ALS0007792); Rideau Transit Maintenance General Partnership and Alstom Transport Canada Inc. Alstom Second Amended & Restated Maintenance Subcontract, September 16, 2019. (PRRR0000119)

Appendix A: Maps of the Confederation Line



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¹⁶ OC Transpo, "O-Train Line 1," accessed April 20, 2022, <https://www.octranspo.com/en/our-services/bus-o-train-network/service-types/o-train-line-1>. (COM0001073)

¹⁷ Altus Group Limited. *Independent Certifier Monthly Updated Status Report # 1*, March 31, 2013. (COM0001532)

Appendix B: Diagram of Contractual Parties and Their Respective Roles

