

# *Orléans* **EMC**

## **Bus station upgrade begins**

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EMC News - A \$1 million upgrade to the Jeanne d'Arc transit station began last week.

The modifications were proposed back in the fall of 2008 to upgrade the existing facilities, to make them more comfortable for transit users.

The project, which is scheduled to be complete by the end of June, will see the addition of larger bus shelters as well as improving the sidewalks and adding bus lanes.

The new bus shelters will be right sized for the amount of people that actually use the stops. The shelter on the north side, where the buses pick up for Regional Rd. 174 going west, is heavily used.

The new shelter will be longer than a 40ft articulated bus, said Pat Scrimgeour, manager of transit service design at the City of Ottawa.

The work will help to improve the traffic flow, said Mr. Scrimgeour. By adding an extra, dedicated bus lane to the east-bound stop, it will decrease the backlog and allow the buses to pull right up to the stop instead of waiting behind the cars turning left onto Jeanne d'Arc Blvd.

"The east end has the highest ridership (of public transit) and we want to keep it going," said Orléans Coun. Bob Monette. "We want to make sure there's proper access to make it easier for the public to take the bus."

The upgrades to the Jeanne d'Arc station are an extension of the work that has been done since a Park and Ride was installed behind Bob MacQuarrie recreation complex in 2006.

"We're improving on what we've already done and hopefully it will increase ridership," said Coun. Monette. "It's not a huge upgrade, but any upgrade makes a positive impact," Coun. Monette added.