



## DDOT Gets Ready to Move Streetcar Vehicles to Anacostia Testing & Commissioning Site

The three Inekon streetcar vehicles, currently stored at WMATA's Greenbelt facility, will be making their way to Anacostia this spring!

DDOT will move the vehicles during the last week of April. Construction has been underway at the Testing & Commissioning Site since September to prepare for the vehicles' arrival.

"This is a momentous occasion," commented Terry Bellamy, Director of DDOT. "Once the vehicles arrive in Anacostia, we will enter what's called post-delivery testing."

Post-delivery testing will be conducted by WMATA and engineers from Inekon. Once this testing has concluded, DDOT's operations and maintenance team will take possession of the vehicles. This will kick off the official safety testing and commissioning of the vehicles and the overall system in Anacostia.

Testing ensures that the route is safe and that all components are working together - traction power substations, contact wire, vehicle pantographs, etc.

DDOT plans to host a community open house over the summer. Members of the general public will be able to visit the Anacostia site and see how the streetcars work.

Once the safety testing and commissioning process is complete, the vehicles will be moved to the H/ Benning corridor to begin testing in mixed traffic, a move currently scheduled for October 2013.

Stay tuned to [dcstreetcar.com](http://dcstreetcar.com) for more information!



DDOT and WMATA discuss moving the vehicles to Anacostia



The Testing & Commissioning Site's substation is delivered

### Interested in working for DC Streetcar?

The Operations and Maintenance team will begin hiring this spring! Sign up at [dcstreetcar.com](http://dcstreetcar.com) to receive job fair notices.

## DC Streetcar is Under Construction and SAFE!

Construction along H/Benning is underway! As you approach the construction zones, please slow down. Pay attention and follow all warning devices such as signs, orange cones, drums, and barricades.

Here are some safety tips to follow during construction:

### Pedestrians

- Be aware of construction signage and flaggers who will guide you to safety.
- Use the crosswalks when crossing the street. It is the safest place to cross. Do not cross in the middle of the street between cones and drums.
- Remove your earphones and pause your conversation when approaching construction zones. The key to safety is to be alert.

### Bicyclists

- Before your ride, decide which streets to take to your destination. Especially during rush hour, consider an alternate route, even if it is less direct.
- When passing by a construction zone, pay attention to traffic controllers. Make eye contact with equipment operators.
- Remember to cross streetcar tracks at a 90 degree angle.

### Motorists

- Allow extra time to travel.
- Directional signs are in place to detour motorists around the work zone.
- Slow down and do not pass while driving in a work zone.
- Before you park your vehicle, be sure to check signs to ensure that you are not parked in a construction work zone where your vehicle can be towed. Emergency No Parking signs are posted on street lamp poles.



*Western Turnaround construction at H and 3rd NE*



*Pocket track construction on Benning Road*



*Checking OCS pole foundations on Benning Road*

## 'Look, Listen, Be Safe!' Safety Campaign in the Works

As construction from Union Station to Oklahoma Avenue along the H/Benning corridor continues and the city prepares for the delivery of the streetcar vehicles, DDOT is gearing up to launch a robust safety outreach effort to educate citizens about all elements of the DC Streetcar program.



Over the coming months, the Look, Listen, Be Safe! safety program will be out in the community and area schools with safety messages about how to interact properly with the vehicles and associated infrastructure. In partnership with DCPS and Operation Life Saver, the Look, Listen, Be Safe! safety program will engage public schools next fall with an informative introduction to streetcars for students of all ages. The program will be a fun way to engage youth and ensure their safety during all phases of the program—from construction through passenger service.

The Look, Listen, Be Safe! safety program is also coming to a venue near you. Starting this spring, we'll be at festivals, fairs, and community events and programs and will be visible along the H/Benning line, with information and promotional items designed to get people excited about DC Streetcar. These events will offer the perfect opportunity for citizens to learn more about the inner workings of the streetcars, the tracks, and how to best interact with them, whether you're a motorist, pedestrian or cyclist.

Safety information is always available on the safety page of [dcstreetcar.com/safety](http://dcstreetcar.com/safety). This page will be updated regularly to include safety tips and information during all phases of DC Streetcar. It will eventually include resources and lesson plans for educators to use to bring DC Streetcar to the classroom.

Get ready for DC Streetcar — and get ready to **Look, Listen, Be Safe!**

### Are you receiving DC Streetcar construction updates?

If you already receive DC Streetcar construction updates, you're in the know about the latest traffic and pedestrian impacts from streetcar construction.

Missing out? Visit [dcstreetcar.com/connect](http://dcstreetcar.com/connect) to access our sign-up form, and be sure to select "H/Benning Construction Updates." We also file our updates online at [dcstreetcar.com/construction/hbenning-construction/detailed-construction-updates](http://dcstreetcar.com/construction/hbenning-construction/detailed-construction-updates). While you're online, browse our redesigned website and for project updates, renderings, and more.

If you have construction questions for our team, feel free to write us at any time at [construction@dcstreetcar.com](mailto:construction@dcstreetcar.com).

#### DC Streetcar Team

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## Benning Road Extension Report Available

The Benning Road Streetcar Extension Feasibility Study examines the planning and engineering feasibility of extending streetcar service east of the Anacostia River in northeast Washington. This proposed line would pick up from where the H Street/Benning Road line (Union Station to Oklahoma Avenue) terminates and extend to either the Minnesota Avenue or Benning Road Metrorail stations. Findings from this study will inform an upcoming environmental process.

The study addresses how the physical characteristics of the area might either help or hinder the project and various planning considerations, answering questions like:

- What is the estimated ridership?
- Where could the stops be located?
- How will extending the streetcar line impact on-street parking and traffic?
- Are the three bridges the streetcars need to cross suitable for streetcar?

The study also identifies resources that will need further investigation to determine what affect may be expected with the arrival of streetcar. These resources include historic properties, parks, parklands, hazardous material sites, and areas potentially sensitive to noise and vibrations during construction. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) plans to kick-off an environmental document this summer to further study these resources. The environmental document will also help determine a preferred alignment and whether the extension will end at the Minnesota Avenue or Benning Road Metro station.

Download the full report at [dcstreetcar.com](http://dcstreetcar.com).

## Overheard by @DCStreetcar

Have a question or comment about DC Streetcar? Tweet us! You just might see yourself in the next newsletter.



Follow us @DCstreetcar!

## Did you know?

TPSS = Traction Power Sub Station

Substations provide electrical power to the streetcar motors through the Overhead Catenary System (OCS).

Providing power to the vehicles requires three substations to be placed along the H/Benning corridor and one to be placed at the Testing & Commissioning Site. A TPSS only runs when the streetcars are in service, so they are not operating 24/7.

Substations are completely safe and fully enclosed. They do not emit radiation or any other harmful pollutants.

Noise from a TPSS can best be described as a quiet, dull hum. You can only hear the TPSS operate if you are standing right beside it.