



Safety Testing In Progress

Once the system is certified as safe, DC Streetcar passenger service can begin

As construction on H Street and Benning Road winds down, safety testing kicks into high gear. You'll find yourself sharing the corridor with streetcars more and more frequently - even though the vehicles are labeled "Streetcar Test" and aren't yet carrying passengers. While empty vehicles may not seem like progress, these safety tests are actually a critical milestone before the start of passenger service.

The DC Streetcar safety and security program is a rigorous certification process. It ensures that the system meets the highest standards of safety and security, that employees and first responders are trained and familiarized with the system, that the public is engaged about safety issues, and that the corridor's drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and delivery trucks have time to become accustomed to sharing the road with streetcars.

Some of the safety and security elements are visible - running the vehicles under live traffic conditions or performing first responder drills, for example. Others are not. Here's the rundown of what you can expect during System Integration Testing (SIT):

- Substation testing and connection checks
- Vehicle clearance, visibility, and overhead connection tests
- Ongoing personnel training: operations, command center, mechanics, drivers
- Controlled low-speed tests for overhead electrical, vehicle, and traffic signal interface
- Controlled high-speed tests for brakes and signals
- First responder drills

This process is intended to ensure that the system meets DC Streetcar standards and is safe to carry passengers in mixed traffic. Final vehicle acceptance

will occur when each streetcar passes each test without failures. Simulated passenger service will begin once each vehicle is cleared for service, with the full fleet running at regular intervals up and down the corridor. This simulated service period is the final test of the system, operational objectives, and personnel.

If you see a safety test in progress on your next visit to the corridor, give us a thumbs up. We're hard at work making DC Streetcar safe and secure for you!



Live streetcar tests along H Street and Benning Road will become a common sight as we continue System Integration Testing to ready the system for service.

Second Phase of North-South Meetings Complete

Conceptual alignments currently being screened for detailed analysis

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is nearly halfway through a planning study to examine opportunities for public transportation improvements in the North-South corridor through the District. The study area comprises a nine-mile, north-to-south corridor that connects the Takoma/Silver Spring area to the Buzzard Point/Southwest Waterfront area.

In mid-February, a week-long series of meetings took place along the corridor, marking the second series of meetings where DDOT collaborated with the community, area businesses, government agencies, and other stakeholders to identify and evaluate above-ground, high quality transit service for this area.

At each of the four meetings, DDOT presented the community with the findings from the first phase of public meetings in November 2013, which narrowed down the possible alignments and transit options to focus on streetcar. The team then walked participants through an initial screening process for the conceptual alignments, evaluating various routes on:

- Ridership potential
- Environmental justice populations
- Land use
- Potential right-of-way impacts
- Travel time and reliability
- Cost
- Intermodal connections
- Potential impacts to community/historic resources

Meeting participants were asked to provide detailed feedback on the alternatives. The Team is currently analyzing this feedback and studying the remaining options in detail. A third and final series of meetings will take place this summer.

Did you miss the North-South Corridor meetings? No problem! Review the meeting materials at <http://www.dcstreetcar.com/projects/future-lines/northsouth> and send your feedback at any time to info@dcstreetcar.com!



Meeting participants listen to the overview presentation.



Residents documenting their detailed comments on conceptual on feedback forms.



Exhibits featuring maps and analysis prompted robust discussion.

Integrated Premium Transit RFQ Released

Firms Sought to Design, Build, Operate and Maintain Integrated 22-Mile Streetcar and Bus Network

On Friday, January 31, District Department of Transportation (DDOT) issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking firms interested in submitting Statements of Qualification (SOQs) to design, build, operate and maintain an Integrated Premium Transit (IPT) system. The future IPT system includes a streetcar network, local bus provisions and both existing and new transit facilities, and is designed to link neighborhoods with attractive transportation alternatives, reduce short inner-city automobile trips and facilitate and encourage economic development and affordable housing options within the District.

The IPT will be developed in phases and will advance key elements of the District's long-term transit vision. To meet the goals of the District's Transit Future System Plan, the IPT builds upon segments currently in construction or planning, establishes priorities for planning and scheduling purposes, and creates a robust system with the maximum number of linkages. The incorporation of local bus services allows the District to provide transit services in a multi-modal, integrated and efficient manner.

As part of the IPT program, new transit facilities and services will be added and existing facilities and services will be modified to meet forecasted ridership demands and economic growth within the District. The IPT is expected to be developed in a number of phases, with each phase being comprised of streetcar segments and bus components.

The IPT procurement will be conducted as a two-step process with an RFQ followed by an RFP. Prospective proposers will be short-listed based upon their SOQ submissions and evaluated against the extensive qualification criteria in the SOQ.

On Tuesday, February 18, a Pre-SOQ meeting was held for firms interested in submitting qualifications. With over 150 people in attendance at the workshop, DDOT gave an overview of the IPT and



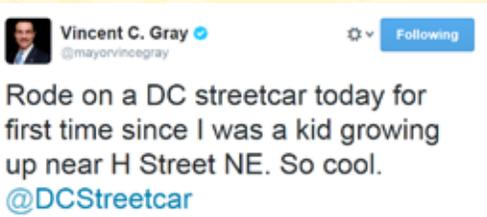
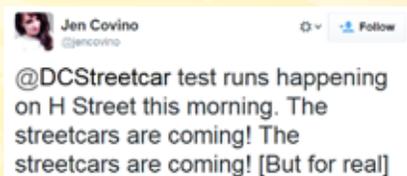
DDOT Chief Engineer Ronaldo "Nick" Nicholson presenting to interested firms.

"This design-build-operate-maintain procurement is an innovative way to deliver the integrated premium transit vision we have for the District in an affordable and efficient manner," said DDOT Director Terry Bellamy. "This delivery method allows us to continue providing innovative, safe and high quality and integrated transportation solutions to the District."

allowed prospective firms to ask questions of the staff. In addition to the Pre-SOQ meeting, a Design and Construction Opportunities meeting was held for the Certified Business Enterprise (CBE) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms on Wednesday, February 19. SOQs are due by 2 p.m. on March 21, 2014. Meeting materials and the RFQ itself can be found on www.dcstreetcar.com/22-mile-priority-system-project-library.

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H/Benning OCS Wires Are Now Fully Energized

Look, Listen, Be Safe!

Be aware: the Overhead Catenary System (OCS) wires on the H Street/ Benning Road line are now fully energized on a permanent basis. Having power on at all times will allow the DC Streetcar Team to continue necessary testing as DC Streetcar prepares for passenger service.



Please remember the following safety tips:

- The public, including all District service agencies and utility companies, should use caution around OCS wires and poles.
- The overhead wire or "catenary" is energized at 750v DC. Do not attempt to climb the poles, touch the wires, or throw things at them.
- Remain 10 feet away from live wires at all times.
- Streetcar power substations are prohibited from entry for your protection. Electricity flows through the substation to the Overhead Catenary System of wires to supply power to the streetcars.

For additional tips on staying safe around DC Streetcar, visit www.dcstreetcar.com/safety.

look + listen 
be safe!