H/Benning Phase 2 Construction

December 17, 2012
Agenda

I. Construction Schedule
II. Elements of Construction
III. Policy and Enforcement
IV. Ongoing Communication
Construction Schedule

- Phase 1 (completed in 2011) – 80% of work completed
- Phase 2 (underway this month) – The final push to make streetcar-ready – the last 20%
# Construction Schedule

## Phase 2 H/Benning Streetcar Construction Schedule - 2012-2013

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Schedule is for informational purposes and is subject to change.
Surveying Existing Conditions

- Opening manholes, digging holes, identifying and locating utilities
- **Impact**: Occasional sidewalk closures and lane closures
Track Bonding

- Track bonding is the process by which heavy-gauge wire is connected from rail to rail and track to track, also called cross-bonding. This process ensures the efficiency of the traction power system that will power the streetcars.

- **Impact:** There will be a four-day process for each of the 11 sections of track that will undergo cross-bonding. Alternating lane closures will be made to maintain traffic flow.
Utility Relocations

- Utility relocations will take place in only a few locations along H/Benning and side streets: 3rd Street, 12th Street, and 23rd-26th Streets.
- **Impact**: Open trench work will be done to relocate utilities, resulting in sidewalk and lane closures.
Turnaround Track Installation

- Track installation will be done at each end of the corridor for the streetcar turnarounds, at 3rd Street/Hopscotch Bridge and along 23rd-26th Streets.

- **Impact**: Alternating lane closures will be made to maintain traffic flow. Track installation work will be done in conjunction with signalization installation whenever possible to minimize impacts. Final staging plans are not complete.
Traffic and Streetcar Signalization Installation

- New signalization will be installed for traffic and for streetcars. One new traffic signal will be erected at 23rd Street. Streetcar signalization will be on a separate pole and located at intersections where the streetcars change lanes: Oklahoma, 23rd – 26th Streets, the Starburst, and 3rd Street.

- **Impact**: Alternating lane closures will be made to maintain traffic flow. Signalization work will be done in conjunction with track installation whenever possible to minimize impacts.
Streetcar Pole and Streetlight Installation

- Begin installing new streetcar poles and streetlights on the existing foundations. Some existing streetlight poles will need to be removed and replaced with a streetcar pole; in that case, the poles will feature both streetcar wire and a streetlight.
- **Impact**: It will take two days to replace each pole. In order to preserve parking for any given block, crews will complete one side of the street at a time, rather than both sides at once. There will be sidewalk and parking lane closures during pole and streetlight installation.
Traction Power Substation Installation

- Begin installing the Traction Power Substation (TPSS) on the southwest corner of H and 12th Streets.
- **Impact**: 12th Street between H and G Streets will be closed for one day during the delivery of the substation. The sidewalk around the installation site on 12th Street will be closed throughout installation.
Elements of Construction

Installation of Contact Wire on Streetcar Poles

• Contact wire will be hung on the streetcar poles in order to power the streetcars.

• **Impact:** There will be rolling lane closures throughout the day, one block at a time, while wire is attached to the streetcar poles. When the wire is ready to be strung across H Street and Benning Road, the streets will shut down for short periods.
Final Roadway Reconstruction

• Roadway reconstruction will need to be done in areas where new track was installed or sidewalks were disrupted. This will include sidewalk work, paving and striping.

• **Impact**: Occasional sidewalk closures and lane closures.
Streetcars Delivered to H/Benning and Testing Begins

• This testing process is an official safety procedure.

• Goals:
  – Provide vehicle operators an opportunity to get familiar with traffic patterns along the route
  – Help local drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and delivery trucks acclimate to sharing the road with streetcars
  – Ensure that H/Benning is safe and ready for service - all components working together

• A robust public information and safety awareness campaign will be ongoing before, during and after the official testing process.
## Construction Schedule Review

### Phase 2 H/Benning Streetcar Construction Schedule - 2012-2013

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Some behavior changes along H/Benning will be required before streetcars begin service

- **Deliveries** – Consider changing deliveries to outside of streetcar service hours or utilize alleys. This has worked well in other streetcar cities. More discussion to come.
- **Loading zones** – Study underway at DDOT assessing the 11 loading zones on H/Benning. If replacements are needed, they will be identified.
- **Double-parking** – Enforcement of parking rules and towing will increase in advance of streetcar service – double-parked vehicles will eventually block the streetcar.
Ongoing Communication

Coming in the New Year: additional ways to stay in touch with the DC Streetcar Team and receive immediate construction assistance and information

• Sign up for construction@dcstreetcar.com e-mail alerts
  – Two-week look-aheads with detailed construction schedules and maps

• Upcoming:
  – Construction hotline
  – H Street office hours
  – Regular visits to your place of business from a team representative
Stay Connected!

District Department of Transportation  
55 M Street SE, 5th Floor  
Washington, DC 20003  
Attn: DC Streetcar Team

Email: info@dcstreetcar.com  
Hotline: 1 (855) 413-2954  
Website: www.dcstreetcar.com  
Facebook: dcstreetcar  
Twitter: @dcstreetcar

Construction Email: construction@dcstreetcar.com