



Appendix I
RFI—DC Streetcar Vehicle



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Progressive Transportation Services Administration

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
DC STREETCAR**

Request for Information (RFI) – DC Streetcar Vehicle

RFI Number:

Issuance Date: May 5, 2010

Due Date: June 18, 2010

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is soliciting information on streetcar vehicles to operate within the existing and future citywide streetcar network.

Treatment of RFI Responses and Respondents

This is not a Request for Offers. Rather, following review of the RFI responses, DDOT may prepare one or more Solicitation of Offers for the procurement of streetcar vehicles. DDOT anticipates issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) during FY 2011/2012.

All respondents to the RFI will be invited to respond to subsequent Solicitation of Offers. However, DDOT reserves the right to invite other parties to respond to such solicitations. Further, parties responding to the RFI are unrestricted in modifying the composition of team members and program approaches should they decide to respond to a subsequent solicitation.

DDOT recognizes that some respondents may consider that disclosing their interest and ideas could compromise competitive advantage should they ultimately decide to respond to a subsequent Solicitation for Offers. DDOT considers responses to this RFI as part of its outreach and research effort; and as such, more in the nature of a survey.

All responses will remain confidential outside of the review team, which will consist of DDOT Director Gabe Klein, Associate Director Scott Kubly and Deputy Associate Director Ralph Burns. Individual responses will not be shared with the public or other respondents.

DDOT intends to use the information in the responses to establish parameters and requirements included in the Solicitation for Offers. Potential respondents must

determine for themselves the relative advantages and disadvantages of responding to the RFI.

DDOT assumes no responsibility or liability for any potential claim of harm and damage. By submitting a response, the respondent expressly acknowledges that DDOT assumes no such responsibility or liability.

Overview

The District of Columbia has initiated construction of the first 2.75 miles of a 37-mile streetcar network: a two-mile segment along H St NE and Benning Rd NE, and a .75-mile segment on Firth Sterling Rd in Anacostia. These two segments are being delivered under a Design/Build approach and the District anticipates completing these segments in 2012. The District will also initiate an environmental review for two additional segments in FY2010. (See Figure 1.)

The initial streetcar fleet is three vehicles, purchased from Inekon Trams a.s., a company headquartered in the Czech Republic. These three vehicles are nearly identical to the streetcars operating in Portland, Oregon; Tacoma, Washington; and Seattle, Washington. DDOT is committed to utilizing a vehicle that can operate for limited distances without the benefit of overhead power supply. This is critical to addressing the concerns of key stakeholders concerning the preservation of critical view sheds, or areas of particular scenic or historical value. (See Figure 2.)

This request for information seeks advice from industry experts and manufactures to design or offer a streetcar vehicle that is capable of operating in the District's unique environment.

Current Vehicles

The District has purchased three streetcars from Inekon-Skoda of the Czech Republic for use on the Anacostia Initial Line Segment (AILS). An additional six cars will be needed to provide service on the H Street/Benning Line and approximately 150 vehicles will be needed to operate the fully built-out DC Streetcar system.

These cars are 2.46 meters (about 8 feet) wide and 20 meters long (about 66 feet), about 10 inches narrower and 1/3 the length of a light rail double car train. They are able to operate in mixed traffic and easily accommodate existing curbside loading.

Request for Information

As plans move forward to operate a citywide streetcar system, it is DDOT's desire to search the open market for information regarding streetcar vehicles that can operate on an Overhead Contact System (OCS), without an OCS or operate in a system both with and without OCS. (See Figure 3. Example of OCS and Non-OCS Configuration)

DDOT welcomes your ideas, suggestions, questions, comments and concerns regarding the DC Streetcar project. Specifically, DDOT is seeking information on vehicles that can

- Travel up to 1 mile without OCS, transporting 150 passengers at a maximum 5% incline grade in temperatures of -10° to 110° , at an average of 6 mph;
- Charge while moving or at stops with minimal time requirements;
- Operate 365 days for 20 hrs per day;
- Operate an HVAC system throughout the system;
- Include a self adjusting leveling system to match a 14" curb;
- Include a bridge plate system for a 10" curb;
- Raise and lower the pantograph system at the will of the operator and when there is a change from OCS to no-OCS; and
- Through the pantograph system, detect interruptions or hazards on the OCS and automatically lower to protect itself and the OCS.

In addition, the vehicles must be:

- Bi-Directional
- Compliant with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA); and

Options:

- Compliant with the National Fire Protection Association Standard for Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems (NFPA 130).
- Bike racks
- Driverless capabilities
- Exterior viewing systems ("back-up camera").
- LCD display systems for passenger viewing
- List optional add-ons

(See Appendix A for a summary of weather conditions in the District of Columbia.)

Procurement Process

This Request for Information (RFI) is considered a preliminary phase in a public procurement process. DDOT reserves the right to cancel, revise or supplement this RFI at anytime. If DDOT elects to move forward with a formal procurement process, it will issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to firms interested in competing to operate the streetcar. Any procurement, finance or other concepts provided in response to this RFI shall become the property of DDOT.

Local Small Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

DDOT encourages LSDBE businesses to participate in the process, together with multiple firms or independently.

How to Respond

Interested suppliers should include the following general information in their response:

- Legal name and address of the supplier;
- Names, telephone numbers, and email addresses of key contact persons;
- A short description of your general experience and qualifications developing transit operations and maintenance plans.
- Measurement – US Standard and Metric

Responses to this RFI are due no later than the date identified above. Please submit your response electronically to ralph.burns@dc.gov or in written hardcopy form to:

District Department of Transportation
Progressive Transportation Services Administration
2000 14th Street NW, 5th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20009
Attention: Ralph Burns, Deputy Associate Director

In an effort to reduce waste, if submitting a hardcopy, please refrain from using 3-ring binders, spiral bindings, and other non-recyclable binders and folders.

Questions may be referred to Ralph Burns via email at ralph.burns@dc.gov.

Questions regarding the solicitation must be received in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. EST on [May 22, 2010].

Figure 1. Full System Map

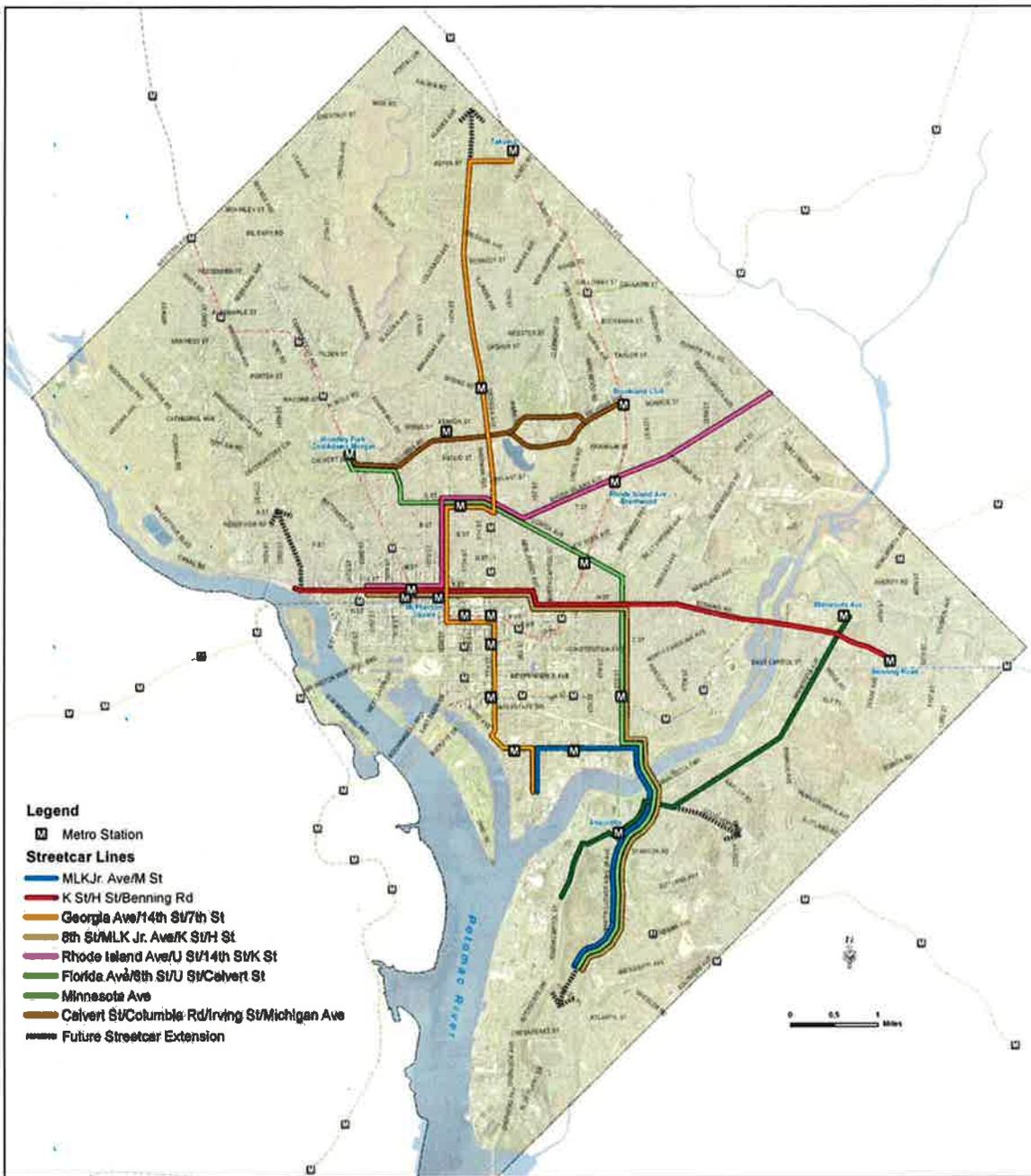
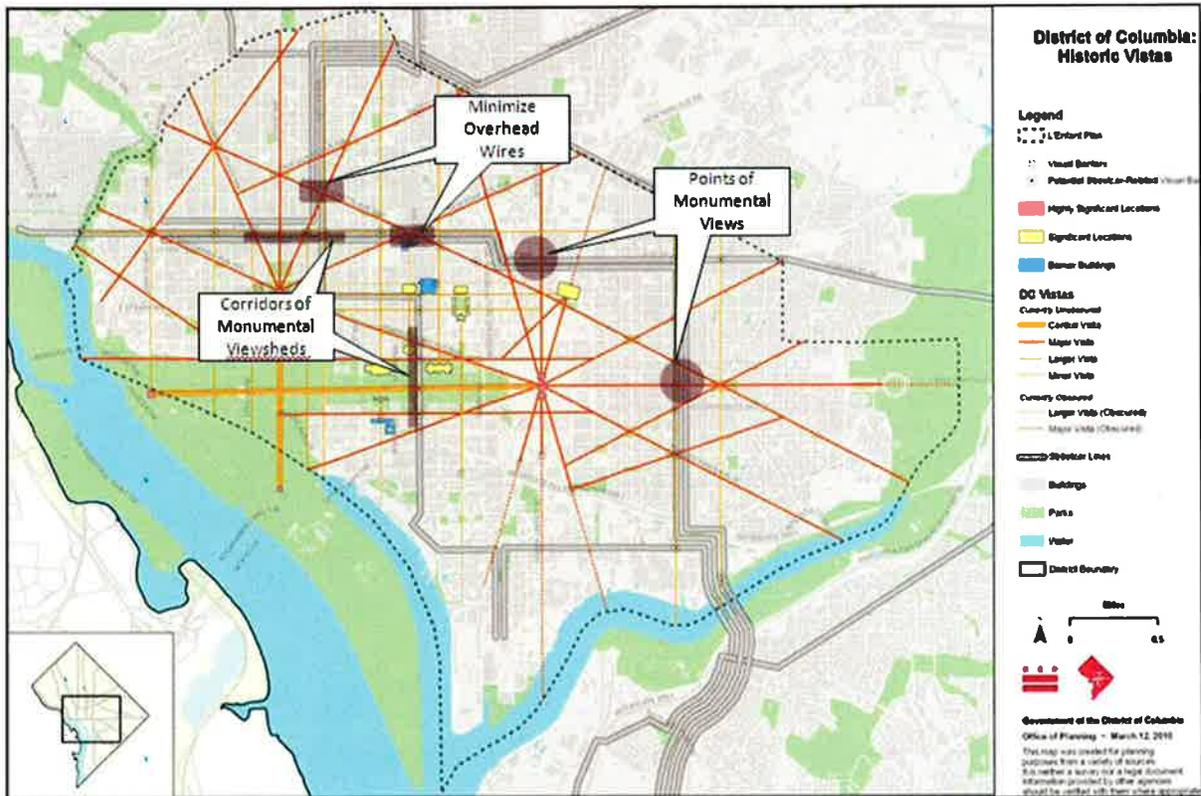


Figure 2. Sample Map of Non-OCS Areas



Appendix A. District of Columbia Weather Conditions

As mentioned above, DDOT is seeking information on vehicles that can operate with and without an OCS and in a variety of weather conditions. Below is a summary of record and average temperatures, precipitation, and winds in the District of Columbia.

- Temperature
 - Record high: 106°F
 - Annual average high: 66°F
 - Summer average: Upper 90's°F

 - Record low: 15°F
 - Annual average low: 48°F
 - Winter average: Upper 20's°F

- Rainfall
 - Annual average: 40"
 - Monthly range: 2.6 to 3.82"
 - Monthly average: 3.27"

- Snow
 - Annual average of 14.7"
 - Annual range: 0.7" to 14.7"
 - Six-month average: 4.9

- Wind
 - Average speed: 9.3 mph
 - Highest wind speeds: Upper 20s mph, with gusts up into the 50s mph.