

# SCHEDULE UPDATE

## THE H STREET N.E. RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

November 15, 2010



The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) achieved significant progress toward completion of the H Street Reconstruction Project during the spring, summer, and fall. In this report, we want to let you know about the winter work schedule and highlight the spring, summer, and fall accomplishments. Please be aware that the work schedule is subject to interruptions by wintertime rain, cold, and snow.

The H Street project extends from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to a point in the 1400 block of H Street.

***To the residents and businesses of the H Street community, we extend our appreciation for your patience and cooperation throughout this project.***

THE WORK AHEAD – November & December, 2010		
Work Activity	Locations	Time Period
Construction of the south-side streetcar track slab and south curb lane roadway	3 <sup>rd</sup> Street to 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Started in mid-October, continues through December
Installing & welding the south-side streetcar tracks for the eastbound streetcars	3 <sup>rd</sup> Street to 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Track installation began in the 300 block on November 2 & is expected to be complete to 7 <sup>th</sup> Street by December 31.
Installing curbs & gutters on the south side of H Street	3 <sup>rd</sup> Street to 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Started in late October, continues through December
Building the new sidewalks on the south side of H Street. During sidewalk work, pedestrians always have access to H Street building entrances <u>except</u> for brief periods during the excavation of the old sidewalk, and the concrete pour for the new sidewalk, usually on the day following the excavation. The access is provided with plywood ramps extending over the work area to the entrance.	300 block 400 block 500 block 600 block	November 15 through early January. Sidewalk work will begin in the 300 block and move eastward. With good weather & temperatures of 40° or warmer, the work takes about one week per block, & and the work in front of each establishment takes two days. With fewer daylight hours & falling temperatures in December, the work may take longer in each block.

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THE WORK AHEAD – November & December, 2010		
Work Activity	Locations	Time Period
Underground installation of standard PVC (Poly Vinyl Chloride) electrical conduits for street lights & traffic signals & simultaneous installation of FRE® (Fiberglass Reinforced Epoxy) conduits to carry high-voltage power for the streetcar system	7 <sup>th</sup> Street to 13 <sup>th</sup> Street	This work is under way and is expected to be complete by December 1.
Final landscaping, street furniture installation, and completion of punch-list items	Starburst Plaza [The Starburst Plaza is part of DDOT's Benning Road Reconstruction Project. All other elements of the Benning Road project have been completed.]	This work is under way & will be substantially complete on or before December 1.

THE WORK AHEAD – January through early October, 2011		
Work Activity	Locations	Time Period
Construction of the south-side streetcar slab & south curb lane roadway	7 <sup>th</sup> Street to 13 <sup>th</sup> Street	January through early October 2011  Contract Date for Project Completion: Early October 2011  [The contract completion date has been extended from July 2011 to early October 2011, reflecting the impact of unanticipated weather-related work interruptions in 2008, 2009, and 2010, including the 2010 blizzard. All project partners – DDOT, Capital Paving of DC, and MACTEC – have agreed that every effort will be made to finish the project as close as possible to the original completion date.]  During January & February, the project team will focus on planning & carrying out as much work as can be done during winter weather conditions.  With mild, dry weather, activities requiring concrete placement ( <i>i.e.</i> , track slab, roadway, sidewalk construction) can proceed. But if there is a great deal of rain & snow & long periods of below-40 temperatures, concrete work will unavoidably have to wait until better weather in March.
Installation & welding of the south-side streetcar tracks		
Installing curbs & gutters on the south side of H Street		
Building new sidewalks of the south side of H Street		
Completion of all other work		
Roadway, streetcar, and sidewalk construction & most other work. In the 1300 block, underground utility upgrades have been completed, and in August 2010, two 27-foot-deep sewer and storm drain manholes were installed on the north side. After the end of August, no work was scheduled in the 1300 block so as not to interfere with the Sept 18 H Street Festival.	1300 block to the project end point near the middle of the 1400 block	

## **MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS – March through October 2010**

- ★ ***Completed rebuilding the roadway and related work in the north and south center lanes of H Street from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to 13<sup>th</sup> Street.***

From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, work in the north curb lane and north streetcar lane was completed before March 2010. Completion of the north and south center lane work leaves only the south curb lane and south streetcar lane to be completed from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, plus roadway reconstruction and related work on both sides from 13<sup>th</sup> Street east to the project end point in the 1400 block of H Street.

- ★ ***Restored north curb lane parking on H Street from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to 13<sup>th</sup> Street.***

Recognizing H Street merchants' needs for parking for their customers and delivery vehicles, we have restored north curb lane parking as soon as construction conditions permitted. In the 1300 block, curb lane parking has been continually available on both sides, except for relatively brief interruptions of portions of north side parking to accommodate two deep manhole installations.

- ★ ***Installed the H Street insignia (pictured on the previous page) on all north side street light poles from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to 13<sup>th</sup> Street.***

The insignia design, developed in partnership with the H Street community, helps to establish a unique "brand" to distinguish H Street as a destination point with its own appealing culture, attractions, and business and residential opportunities.

- ★ ***Built sidewalks, granite curbs, and brick gutters in the south side intersections of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Streets and the southwest side of 13<sup>th</sup> Street.***

On the side-street intersections, the project includes building new sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and roadway surfaces from H Street for approximately 75 feet into each side street.

- ★ ***Resolved complex technical problems involving the placement of high-voltage FRE® conduits carrying power for the streetcar system in proximity to lower-voltage conduits carrying power for street lights and traffic signals.***

- ★ ***Managed construction activities so as to accommodate Washington Gas adjustment of its high-pressure gas lines from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to 12<sup>th</sup> Street without disrupting or delaying H Street project progress.***

- ★ ***Managed construction activities to provide sufficient clear and safe space for the annual H Street Festival on September 18.***

- ★ ***Distributed more than 3,000 flyers door-to-door to affected businesses and residents – and by e-mail to hundreds more – to inform the community about 30 specific construction activities during March through October.***