



# BENNING ROAD

Reconstruction and Streetcar Project

## Open House 1 Comment Period


Open House #1 was hosted on September 19, 2019 at the Department of Employment Services (DOES). **At the open house DDOT provided a brief overview of the project and received public input.**

All materials presented at the open house are posted on the resources page of the project website ([www.BenningProject.com](http://www.BenningProject.com)).

The comment period is now open. **You may submit your comments by completing an online survey via the project website by October 3, 2019.**

Subscribe on the project website to receive email updates about future opportunities to stay connected.

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[www.BenningProject.com](http://www.BenningProject.com)

 <b>BENNING ROAD</b> <small>Reconstruction and Streetcar Project</small>	<b>Comments</b>
<small>Thank you for participating in the public meeting for the Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project. Please take a few moments to complete the following questions. You may submit your comments by either turning this form in to the project team at the end of the meeting or by mailing it back to the address on the reverse of this form by October 3, 2019.</small>	
<small>The purpose of this meeting is to provide an overview of the project and seek public input on concepts and resources that should be considered.</small>	
<small>Do you agree with the proposed objectives of the DC-295/Benning Road Interchange portion of the project? If not, please explain what you think should be added.</small>	
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<small>Are you aware of any social, cultural, or natural resources in the project area that should be considered in the interchange environmental study? If yes, please explain below.</small>	
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<small>What additional improvements, if any, would you like to see considered in the Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project and why?</small>	
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<small>Additional Comments:</small>	
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<small>If you have any additional comments or questions please contact:</small>	
<small>Robyn Jackson, P.E. DDOT Project Manager</small>	<small>robyn.jackson@dc.gov 202-671-5110</small>
<small>Benning.Project@dc.gov <a href="http://www.benningproject.com">www.benningproject.com</a></small>	

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If you need special accommodations, please contact Cesar Barreto at 202-671-2829 or [cesar.barreto@dc.gov](mailto:cesar.barreto@dc.gov). If you need language assistance services (translation or interpretation), please contact Karen Randolph at 202-671-2620 or [karen.randolph@dc.gov](mailto:karen.randolph@dc.gov). These services will be provided free of charge.





# Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project

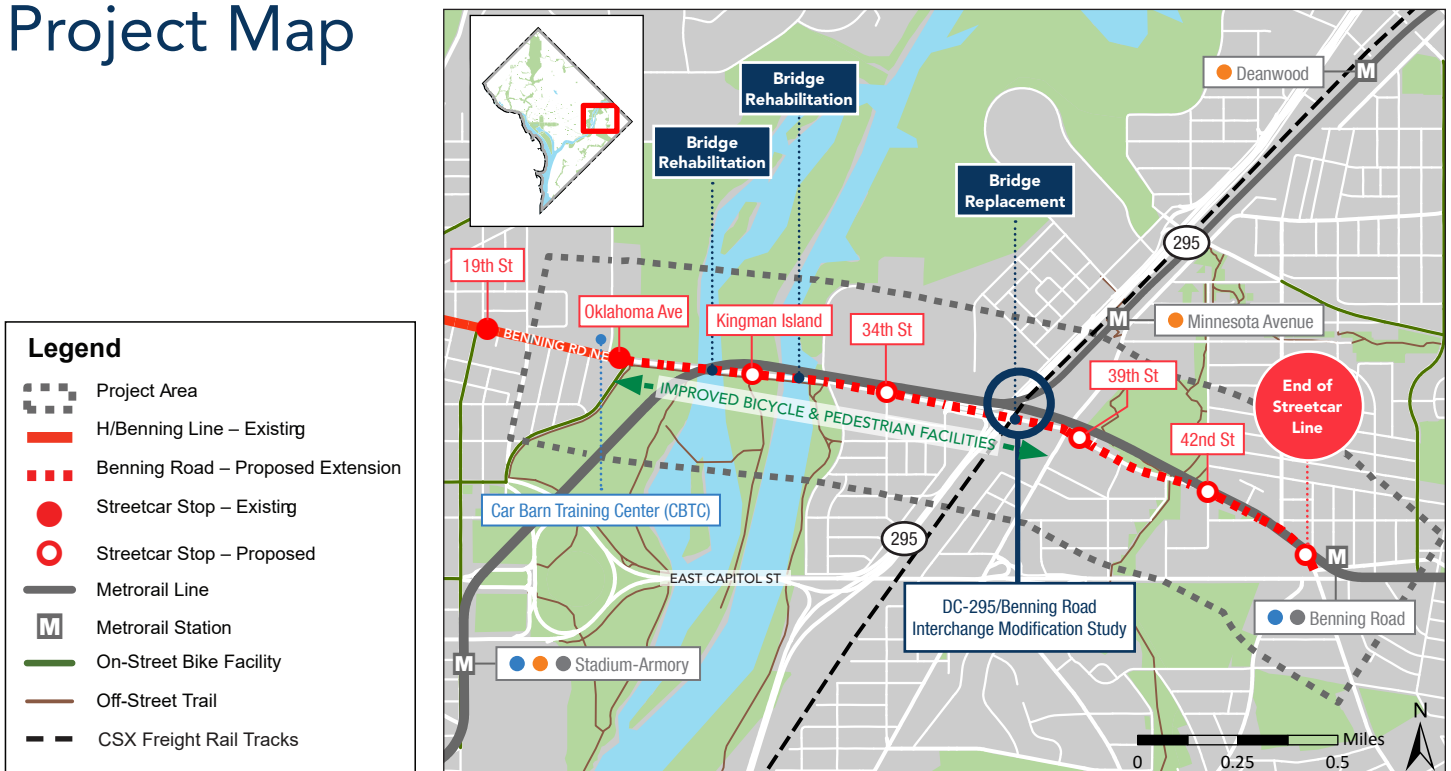
## Overview

As part of the ongoing Benning Road and Bridges Transportation Improvements Environmental Assessment (EA), the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has initiated a preliminary design project aimed at improving the Benning Road corridor to safely and efficiently accommodate all modes of transportation. The Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project will begin preliminary design to improve safety conditions and operations, address deficiencies in infrastructure, and provide additional transit options in Ward 7, Ward 5, and along the approximately two miles of Benning Road NE from Oklahoma Avenue NE to East Capitol Street. This includes:

- Enhancing safety and operations along the corridor and at key intersections
- Improving transportation infrastructure conditions
- Rehabilitating roadways and bridges that cross the Anacostia River, DC-295, and CSX freight rail tracks
- Enhancing and installing pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Extending DC Streetcar transit service to the Benning Road Metrorail station

Community needs, preferences, and input voiced during past studies—including the DC Transit Future System Plan, DDOT Benning Road Streetcar Extension Study, and Benning Road Corridor Redevelopment Framework Plan and EA—will help shape and inform the project to improve access, operations, and safety for all users along the Benning Road corridor. Public involvement will be continuous throughout this next phase of the project, which seeks to connect Ward 7 and Ward 5 neighborhoods to employment, activity centers, the regional Metrorail system, and multimodal transportation services at Union Station.

## Project Map

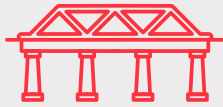




# BENNING ROAD

Reconstruction and Streetcar Project

## Key Project Elements



Bridge and roadway rehabilitation and replacement



Pedestrian and bicyclist safety enhancements



Safety and streetscape improvements



Interchange modifications at DC-295/Benning Road ramps



Median-running streetcar

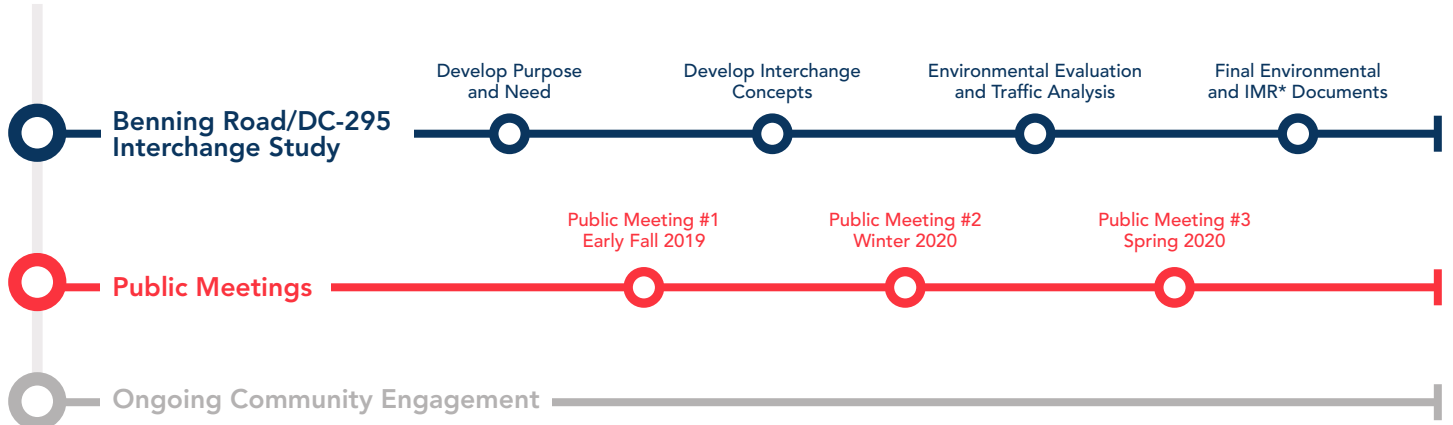


Streetcar end of line at Benning Road Metrorail station

## Schedule

### Benning Road Preliminary Design (18 months)

Bridge Design • Streetscape Design • Streetcar Stop Planning



\*Interchange Modification Report

# Mythbusters: Benning Project Edition

**Myth 1:** The Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project is an expansion of the existing streetcar service only.

**Fact:** The Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project is a comprehensive transportation project providing much-needed upgrades to the infrastructure along the Benning Road corridor. Project highlights include replacing the Lorraine Whitlock bridge over DC-295, enhancing pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure along the corridor, improving safety and access at interchange ramps to Benning Road and DC-295, completing numerous safety enhancements, and improving the streetscape.

**Myth 2:** The Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project will remove parking along the Benning Road corridor, negatively impacting residents and businesses.

**Fact:** Parking will not be removed or negatively impacted along the corridor. Based on feedback received from the public during the past 5 years, DDOT has selected Build Alternative 2 (from the Benning Road and Bridges Transportation Improvements Project Draft Environmental Assessment) as the preferred alternative to move forward to preliminary design. The preferred alternative is a median-running streetcar facility that will preserve the corridor's existing parking while also expanding sidewalks, adding bike facilities, and maintaining traffic flow.

**Myth 3:** In the effort to expand streetcar service, DDOT will use eminent domain to take property from stakeholders along the corridor.

**Fact:** DDOT has no plans to use eminent domain to take ownership of private property in the corridor. Existing public space will need to be repurposed, specifically along the 4200 block of Benning Road NE, to expand the roadway for driver comfort, widen sidewalks, and preserve parking. Some trees will need to be removed and replaced to make for safer transit and a more walkable community.

**Myth 4:** The streetcar will impede traffic flow, delaying buses, and remove curb parking.

**Fact:** DDOT's preferred alternative is a median-running streetcar facility that will avoid impacts to parking. In addition, DDOT is designing and relocating proposed streetcar stops to keep them from impeding traffic flow and to minimize bus delay.

**Myth 5:** DDOT has already determined the design and final recommendations for the Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project and will not consider the input provided by the public at these meetings.

**Fact:** DDOT is committed to transparency in all our projects. As such, DDOT is keenly aware of the need to work with community stakeholders. Since the start of this process more than 5 years ago, DDOT, along with its federal partners, has documented communications with residents and business owners along the corridor. Every step leading up to the Benning Road Reconstruction and Streetcar Project has been inclusive of the community's input and lessons learned.