



Transit as a Catalyst

Urban Land Institute TOD

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H Street NE



Role of Transit in Economic Development – H Street NE

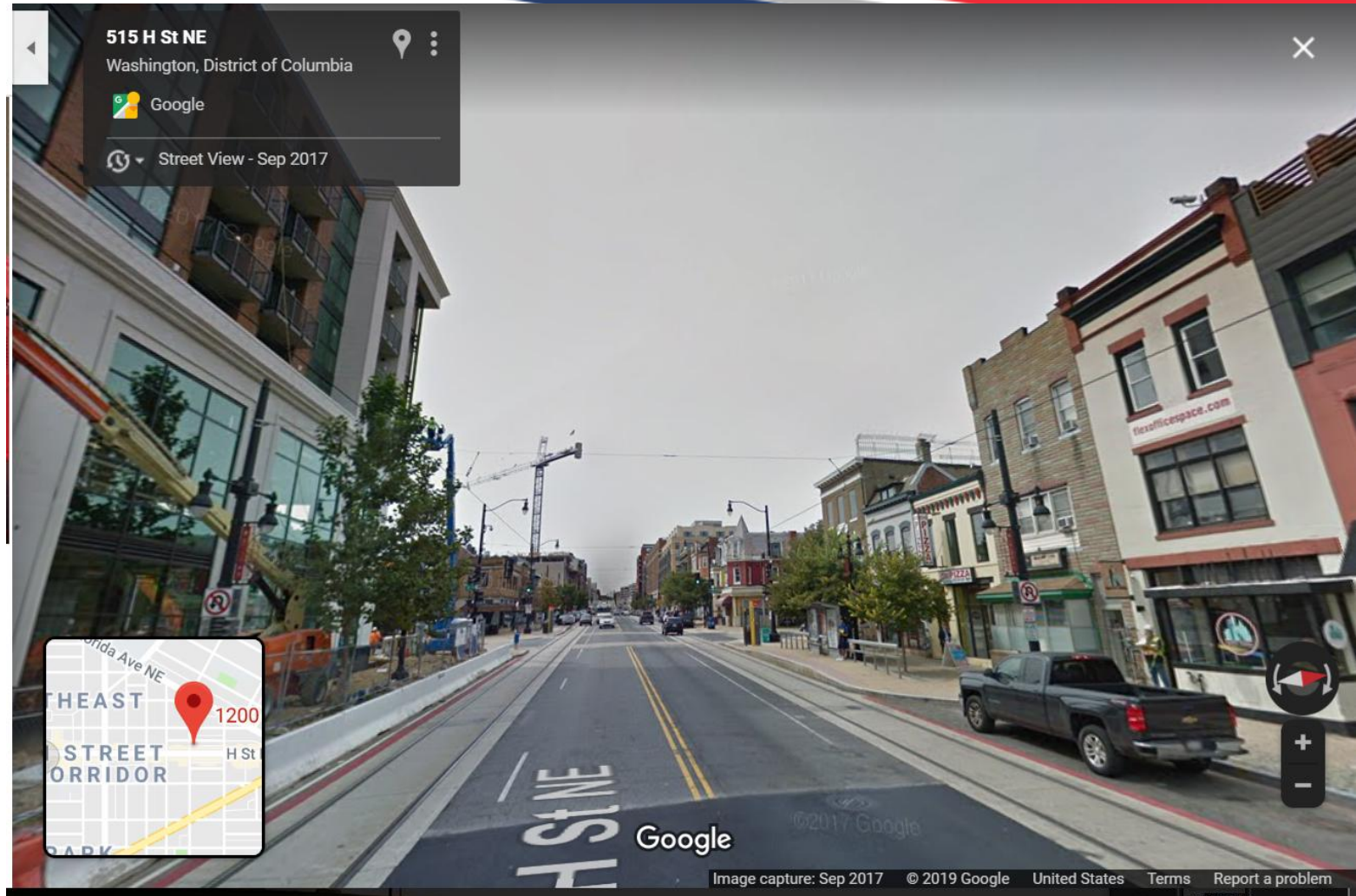
- Formerly vibrant business corridor devastated during the 1968 riots
- Remained vacant and troubled for decades
- Neighborhood organization H Street Main Street worked with the District to be considered for a streetcar line
- “Gas prices are going up, car prices are going up, parking is getting more expensive... a streetcar will work here and we can dig up the streets just once and get tracks, new utility lines, new water lines, street lighting, trees and flower beds at no cost to local consumers.” – Anwar Saleem, HSMS President



500 Block of H St NE in 2007

Role of Transit in Economic Development – H Street NE

- Streetcar tracks installed during the Great Streets streetscape project
- These investments gave business owners, homeowners, and investors confidence that the District believed in them and also had a stake in the future of the corridor
- With streetcar came passengers – and customers, residents, and proprietors



500 Block of H St NE in 2017

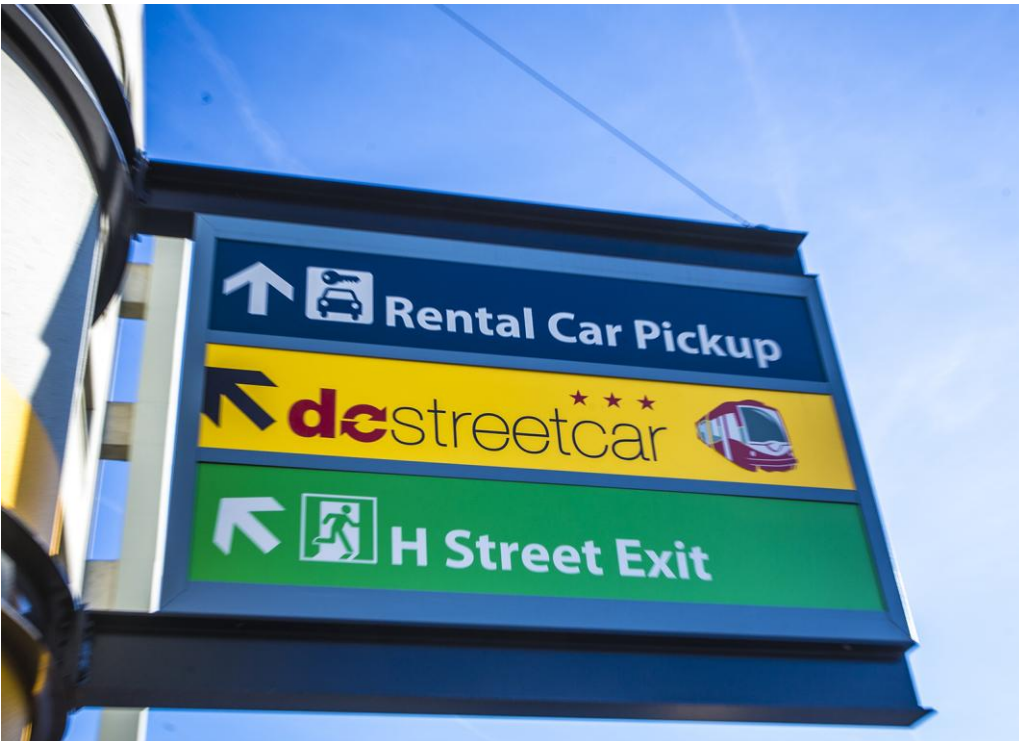
DC Streetcar Infrastructure Challenges

- The District's decision to pursue streetcar as opportunities arose is why we have it today, but the timing did introduce some challenges:
 - Vehicles and equipment sat in storage for years before use
 - Engineers had to retrofit solutions to the placement of the rail in certain locations
 - Narrow vehicle envelope – park between the lines!
 - Historic designation process for a site adjacent to the Car Barn halted the project for six months when it was at 90% design/permitting – and then had to begin all over again



Positive Impacts of DC Streetcar

- Premium Transit
- Vote of District Confidence
- Fewer Cars on the Road
- Green and Clean
- Economic Development



Positive Impacts of DC Streetcar

“DC Streetcar has driven the change and tremendous development of this corridor over the years. Our shops and restaurants continue to appreciate the business that the streetcar brings them, and residents are choosing to live here for our community’s vibrant, car-free culture.”

– Anwar Saleem, President, H Street Main Street



Role of DDOT in H Street NE Redevelopment

- Great Streets Road Reconstruction Project
- DC Streetcar delivery
- Each fundamental to H Street's renaissance



DDOT Looks Ahead

- DC Streetcar Benning Extension
 - Preliminary design is underway
 - Public meeting held on September 19
 - Will connect to Benning Road Metro
 - Crosses the river to serve Ward 7
 - Will add significant ridership



DC Streetcar Official Website: www.dcstreetcar.com

Benning Project Website: <https://www.benningproject.com/>

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district department of transportation