

## Adaptive Traffic Lights Come to Washington DC

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The District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) is to upgrade and implement an adaptive traffic signal control (ATSC) system on three major arterials in the Washington DC area.



DDOT is building the adaptive system to provide more efficient traffic signal operations, and as part of this effort, is implementing extensive vehicle detection systems on the three major arterial routes to monitor traffic flow.

A total of over 50 signalized intersections are included as part of the initial system procurement project. According to M G Habib, DDOT's project manager for the adaptive traffic signal scheme, the transportation objectives in the District of Columbia include making key investments in improving the network's traffic operations, and reducing the many hours of congestion that affect the movement of people and goods. The adaptive traffic control system is one of the key elements in the agency's improvements of its transportation system operations in the city.

Iteris is part of the Daniel Consultants Inc (DCI) team that was selected by DDOT for the project, and the company will use its technology to automate real-time traffic signal timings in order to mitigate congestion. Iteris's contract value for this work is approximately US\$714,000 and is expected to commence immediately.

The company's work is expected to include procurement and installation of central hardware and software that upgrades the District of Columbia's current central traffic control system with an adaptive control module to enhance the system functionality. Iteris also plans to procure and implement upgrades to existing signal controllers and test and validate operations involving the upgraded central system, upgraded controllers, and related detection systems being installed along the selected arterial routes.

Iteris was involved in a feasibility study for adaptive control for DDOT in 2011, which identified several options for implementing adaptive signal systems, and recommended the arterial routes and intersections that are part of the first phase implementation effort.