

Fact Sheet  
August 2018

## Harrison Street Substation Modernization

We are committed to providing reliable electric service to our customers and supporting the future energy needs of the region. As part of this commitment, Pepco began work to upgrade and modernize the Harrison Street Substation in 2011. The Substation has been in service and operating reliably since the 1940s. While the facility has undergone regular maintenance and upgrades over the years, the infrastructure and some of the equipment are nearing the end of their intended service life and require upgrades. Additionally, the increased demand for electricity is another important driver for this project. The upgrade and modernization will enhance system reliability for customers throughout the service area.

### Project Timeline

In September 2011, Pepco purchased the property at 5220 Wisconsin Avenue (formerly Classic Motors). The property has been used for temporary equipment to provide electric service to the area during the upgrade.

In 2013, Pepco undertook site preparation, including establishing controlled access points for project personnel, constructing a gravel entrance for equipment deliveries, remediation, grading and erecting silt fencing.



*Façade rendering of the upgraded Harrison Street Substation*

In 2013-2014, Pepco conducted extensive infrastructure work to support the modernization of the Harrison Street Substation, including distribution upgrades, tripling capacity from 4kV to 13kV and alleviating load from the Harrison Street Substation by transferring three feeders to the Oliver Street Substation.

In 2015-2016, underground transmission lines were extended along Western Avenue, Jenifer Street and Wisconsin Avenue. Temporary equipment was installed to the site at 5220 Wisconsin Avenue.

In 2017, electric load was transferred from the Substation to the temporary equipment to provide service to the area during the upgrade. Interior demolition of the Substation was completed and equipment was removed.

In 2018, final work is underway to commission transmission lines at Wisconsin and Van Ness to supply power to the newly upgraded Harrison Substation. The transmission work will involve manhole work in the 3600 block of Van Ness; excavation work at 4201 Wisconsin Avenue; manhole work in front of 4200 Wisconsin Avenue; and work at Pepco's Van Ness Substation at 4000 Van Ness Street. The schedule for this work is beginning early September through December 2018.

In addition, several manholes need to be resized in the area around the Substation which will involve crews installing approximately 1,000 feet of conduit on Wisconsin Avenue between Harrison and Jenifer Streets. This work will occur mid-September 2018 through February 2019.

In 2019, the upgrade will be completed, exterior walls will be finished, new equipment will be installed, storefront and façade will be completed, storm water management system will be finalized, electrical load will be transferred and the Substation will be energized.

### **Historic Designation**

Because of the art deco design of the façade and the “unique” design of the building constructed to resemble a business storefront, the Substation was designated historic by the DC Historic Preservation Review Board in November 2017. In accordance with HPRB's Order, the façade will be carefully restored to emphasize its character-defining features, including repairing and relighting the clock.

### **An Upgraded Harrison Street Substation Will Benefit the Community By:**

- providing a state-of-the-art Substation that is quieter and highly efficient
- enhancing the reliability of service
- ensuring we can meet the growing demand for the community's electricity needs
- enclosing the Substation's equipment so that it will no longer be visible to the neighbors
- providing façade upgrades along Wisconsin Avenue
- providing opportunities for community involvement with window displays

### **Public Participation and Communication**

Our goal is to keep residents in the project area informed every step of the way. We aim to complete the work with as little disruption as possible. We will notify residents and businesses near the project area of project updates or any changes to the schedule. We will maintain a special area on our website for updates and additional project information. Visit [pepco.com](http://pepco.com) and click on Community Commitment, then Reliability Projects to find updated information.

For additional information concerning the Harrison Street Substation project, please email Linda Greenan, External Affairs Manager, Pepco Region, District of Columbia at [linda.greenan@pepco.com](mailto:linda.greenan@pepco.com)