

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER

### OFFICE OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

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# PRESS RELEASE

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# **District Issues Smart Lighting RFQ**

Marks the launch of procurement to identify qualified teams who can deliver more reliable lighting, energy savings, and smart city technology

(WASHINGTON, DC) – Today, the District issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for its "Smarter. Brighter. Greener." project that will create a modern streetlight system. This critical next stage in the procurement follows a Request for Information (RFI) and Industry Forum that was held in January.

This Project, which is a joint effort of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), and the Office of Public-Private Partnerships (OP3), will modernize more than 75,000 streetlights in the District by converting them to LED technology with remote monitoring and control capabilities and deploy Smart City technology (SCT), including Wireless Access Points that will expand the District broadband Wi-Fi network and serve as a platform for future uses and applications.

Per the RFQ, Respondents must provide a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) by August 7, 2017 to describe their team and approach to delivering the Project. Following the District's review and evaluation of SOQs, the District will prequalify a number of teams, who will be the only Shortlisted Proposers invited to participate in the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

"This is a great opportunity and the District is looking for a great partner," said Seth Miller Gabriel, Director of OP3. "We are eager to start upgrading our streetlight system as soon as possible to begin realizing the safety, environmental, and economic development benefits of the project."

LEDs last 4 times as long as traditional bulbs, require fewer repairs, and provide more consistent light so neighborhoods are well lit and safer. Converting the District's 75,000 streetlights to





LED technology will also save at least 40 million kilowatt hours (KWH) of electricity per year, which is the equivalent of burning 30 million pounds of coal. The new remote monitoring system will allow the lights themselves to notify the District when they are need of servicing so that residents do not have to and will ensure quicker response times.

OP3's leadership in the procurement process allows the District to utilize private financing in an unprecedented manner, giving it the ability to deliver the benefits of this project in just 2 years instead of 8 under current budget and planning. It also transfers risk to the private sector so that the District only pays for facilities and services when they work.

OP3, OCTO, and DDOT will continue to engage residents and other stakeholders by attending community meetings across the District to get their feedback on what they would like in a streetlight system. Final technical and performance specifications will be developed following this engagement process and incorporated into the RFP that will be issued to shortlisted teams later in the year.

OP3 is charged with building collaborations between the private sector and District government to deliver major infrastructure projects and other public services though long-term, performance-based agreements. The Office was established by the Public-Private Partnership Act of 2014, which was authored by Mayor Bowser, and launched in November 2015. For more information about the Smart Lighting project, please visit op3.dc.gov/streetlights.

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