



Investing in your future

## OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2007-2013 INVESTS IN INTEGRATED URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECTS



### MODERNIZATION OF SOFIA URBAN TRANSPORT



Within Priority axis 1: "Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development", Operation 1.5 "Sustainable Urban Transport Systems" under OPRD are provided grants to the amount of BGN 411 million for development of integrated urban transport in the major cities of the country – Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Burgas, Pleven, Russe and Stara Zagora. The operation will focus mainly on creating more effective and speedy urban transport with less energy consumption, construction of more accessible secondary infrastructure of public transport networks and introduction of environmentally friendly modes of public transport.

The development of sustainable and environmentally friendly urban transport systems is of significant importance. This means that major cities should aim at increasing the number of passengers using public urban transport, as well as to elaborate programmes for construction of bicycle lanes, bicycle parking areas, etc. This will be only possible if public transport and intermodal systems are well developed, efficient and attractive. The emphasis on the advantages of public transport systems may contribute to

geographic and social integration of regions and cities and provide equal access to the labour market and social services.

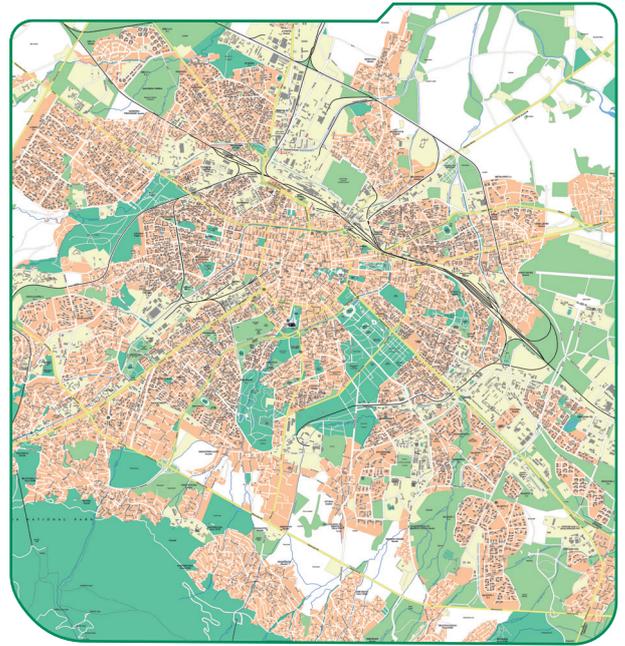
### **FORTHCOMING SUBMISSION OF A PROJECT FOR INTEGRATED URBAN TRANSPORT IN SOFIA**

A project for integrated urban transport in Sofia is under preparation with the technical assistance of JASPERS (Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions). The indicative project cost is BGN 129 million, of which BGN 98 million will be covered by OPRD grant.

The project preparation involves an integrated approach and all activities within its scope are subject to the overall programme for improvement of transport in Sofia Municipality (existing and planned future investments), complementing already started initiatives or creating premises for upgrading the results.

The project includes development of an information system of the urban transport, which will ensure priority of the urban transport vehicles at 20 regulated street crossings and will serve as a basis for building

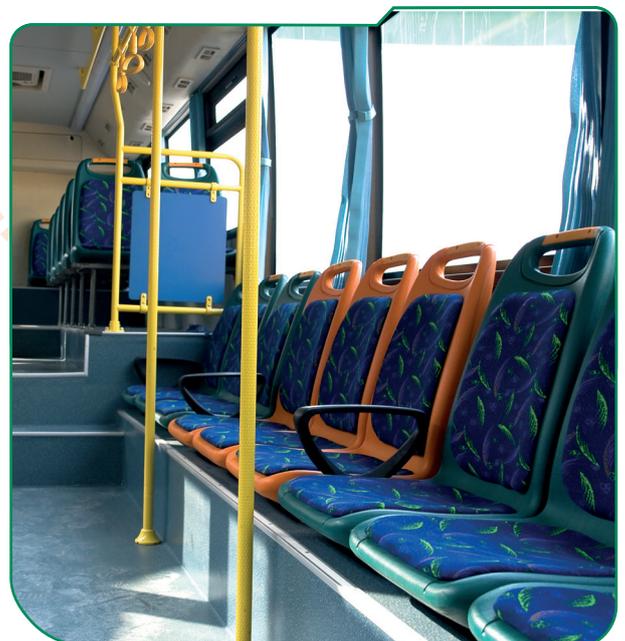


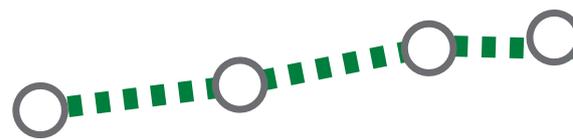
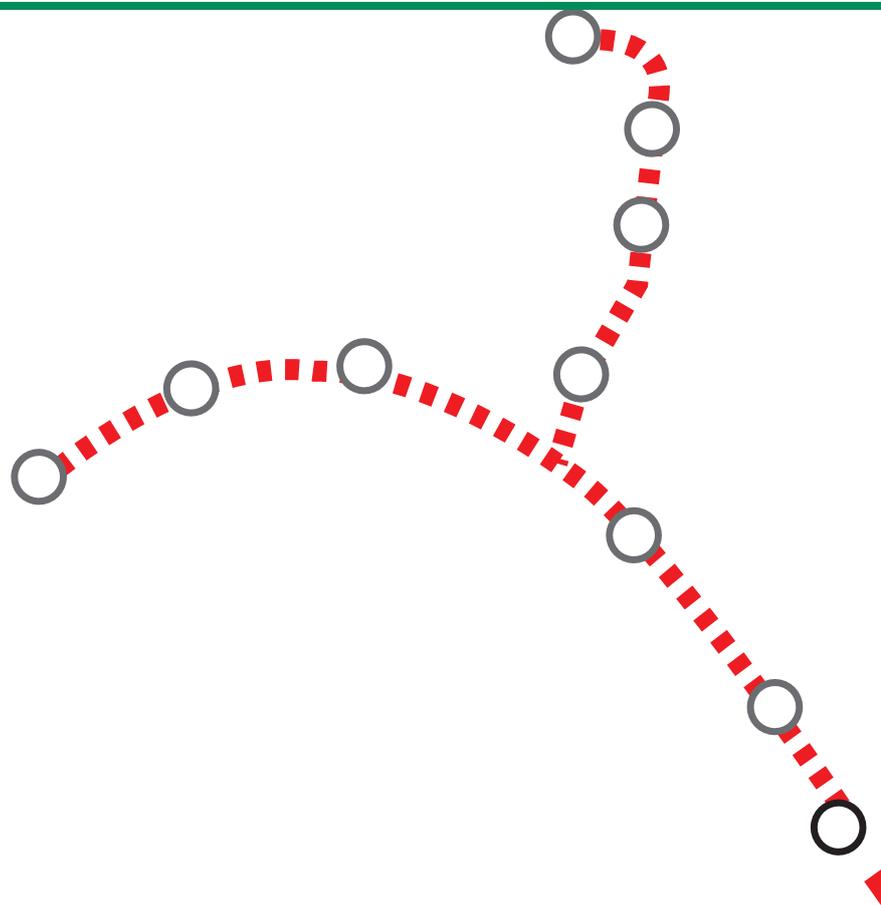


an integrated intelligent system for traffic management.

The project will include infrastructural components (rehabilitation of the existing and construction of new tram lines) and components for renewing the rolling stock and amelioration of stop stations of the public transport:

- Provision is made to install 600 new electronic information boards at urban transport stop stations.
- Reconstruction of 400 shelters at stop stations for vehicles of urban transport will be performed;
- Provision is made for delivery of new articulated low floor trolley buses.





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