

Virginia Avenue Tunnel Reconstruction  
Final Environmental Impact Statement &  
Section 4(f) Evaluation  
Washington, DC

Submitted Pursuant to  
42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c) and 49 U.S.C 303

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration  
and  
District of Columbia Department of Transportation

Cooperating Agencies  
Federal Railroad Administration  
National Capital Planning Commission  
National Park Service  
U.S. Marine Corps

June 5, 2014  
Date of Approval

Matthew T. Brown  
Matthew T. Brown, Acting Director  
District of Columbia Department of Transportation

June 5, 2014  
Date of Approval

Joseph C. Lawson  
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The Federal Highway Administration and the District Department of Transportation are considering approvals for the proposed reconstruction of Virginia Avenue Tunnel. The tunnel is owned by CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSX) and is located beneath eastbound Virginia Avenue SE, with portals located a short distance west of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE and a short distance east of 11<sup>th</sup>

(over)

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Street SE. The proposed project will include reconstruction of the tunnel, including converting the tunnel's single-track to a two-track configuration, and providing vertical clearance for double-stack intermodal container freight trains. Impacts of a no-build (Alternative 1) and three build alternatives (Alternatives 2, 3 and 4) are analyzed in this Final EIS. Alternative 3 was identified as the preferred alternative.

*Section 1319 of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) requires, to the maximum extent practicable, and unless certain conditions exist, that FHWA develop a single document that combines the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). FHWA has determined that practicability considerations preclude issuance of the combined document pursuant to section 1319 of MAP-21. Therefore, FHWA is issuing the FEIS as a separate document to allow the agencies to review additional public comments submitted after the FEIS and to convene an additional public meeting after the publication of the FEIS prior to issuing a Record of Decision*

*A Federal agency may publish a notice in the Federal Register, pursuant to 23 USC §139(l), indicating that one or more Federal agencies have taken final action on permits, licenses, or approvals for a transportation project. If such notice is published, claims seeking judicial review of those Federal agency actions will be barred unless such claims are filed within 150 days after the date of publication of the notice, or within such shorter time period as is specified in the Federal laws pursuant to which judicial review of the Federal agency action is allowed. FHWA intends to issue this 150 days' notice when it will issue the Record of Decision.*