## **CONSTRUCTION VIBRATION MONITORING SUMMARY REPORT**

**JULY 1 - JULY 31, 2016** 

VIRGINIA AVENUE TUNNEL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT WASHINGTON, DC

Prepared for: CSX Transportation

Prepared by: Gannett Fleming Inc.

**July 2016** 

## VIRGINIA AVENUE TUNNEL RECONSTRUCTION Construction Vibration Monitoring Summary

Gannett Fleming Inc. (GFI) has prepared this vibration monitoring report as part of the ongoing efforts to comply with the commitments presented in the Virginia Avenue Tunnel Reconstruction Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Section 4(f) Evaluation (May, 2014) and further detailed in the Record of Decision (ROD), November, 2014. CSX Transportation, the project sponsor, has agreed to a number of environmental commitments as mitigation for environmental impacts that will result from the Virginia Avenue Tunnel Reconstruction Project. The commitments are divided between those related to construction of the Project and those related to the restoration of affected areas upon project completion of the Selected Alternative. These environmental commitment measures are mitigations which avoid the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; minimize impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; rectify the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reduce or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or compensate for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments. This construction vibration monitoring summary report is intended to fulfill aspects of the vibration monitoring commitments contained in the ROD for the Virginia Avenue Tunnel reconstruction.

The Project Team has installed perimeter vibration monitoring stations adjacent to various buildings within the Project limits. These monitoring stations are intended to monitor construction vibration associated with the Project. Construction vibration will be monitored throughout the Project's construction period. Sophisticated monitoring devices have been installed at eight locations to ensure the construction activities are performed in compliance with the permitted vibration levels. The monitoring devices will record the vibration level and automatically report the data back to the Project Engineers.

## Methodology of Construction Vibration Monitoring

Construction vibration level data was collected for the reporting period starting July 1 through July 31, 2016. Eight fixed vibration monitoring locations have been measured continuously to monitor vibration levels since the beginning of major construction activities in May 2015. Vibration level data was collected every minute for the duration of the vibration monitoring period. The locations of the monitoring stations are depicted in Figure 1 and the addresses described in Table 1.

**Figure 1. Vibration Monitoring Locations** 



**Table 1. Vibration Monitoring Locations Description** 

Site ID	Vibration Monitoring Location			
V1	West of New Jersey Avenue SE			
V2	Corner of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE			
V3	Between 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and 4 <sup>th</sup> Street SE, in front of Townhomes			
V4	Corner of 4 <sup>th</sup> Street SE and I Street SE			
V5	Corner of 5 <sup>th</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE, in front of Capper Senior Apartments			
V6	Adjacent to fence of Marine Corp Recreational Facility on 6 <sup>th</sup> Street SE			
V7	In front of Building on 7 <sup>th</sup> Street SE			
V8	Corner of 10 <sup>th</sup> Street SE and L Street SE			

## **Vibration Data Summary Charts**

Table 2 presents the results of the maximum vibration levels measured during the month of July 2016 and show how the measured levels compare to the established vibration criteria. The average daily vibration level results are plotted in Figure 2. An exceedance of the vibration criteria was recorded during construction at Locations 4 and 5. However, the infrequent rate of occurrence (twice during the month at each location) and the short duration of the event (less than 3 seconds for each event) is not expected to cause damage to any of the nearby structures at either location. [Note that Location 7 did not record data on July 20, 21, 24 and 29-31 due to power losses caused by severe thunderstorms.]

Table 2. Construction Vibration Monitoring Results – July 2016

Site ID		Construction Monitoring		
	Vibration Monitoring Location	Max. Lv (VdB)	Criteria <sup>a,b</sup> (VdB)	Exceedance (Yes/No)
V1	West of New Jersey Avenue SE	92	102 <sup>c</sup>	No
V2	Corner of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE	88	102°	No
V3	Between 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and 4 <sup>th</sup> Street SE, in front of Townhomes	96	98 <sup>d</sup>	No
V4	Corner of 4 <sup>th</sup> Street SE and I Street SE	99	90 <sup>e</sup>	Yes
V5	Corner of 5 <sup>th</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE, in front of Capper Senior Apartments	96	94 <sup>f</sup>	Yes
V6	Inside the fence of Marine Corp Recreation Facility on 6 <sup>th</sup> Street SE	93	94 <sup>f</sup>	No
V7	In front of Building on 7 <sup>th</sup> Street SE	85	94 <sup>f</sup>	No
V8	Corner of 10 <sup>th</sup> Street SE and L Street SE	82	94 <sup>f</sup>	No

- a. Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). CREATE Noise and Vibration Assessment Methodology. December 2007.
- b. Federal Transit Administration (FTA). *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment*. U.S. Department of Transportation Report No. FTA-VA-90-1003-06, May 2006.
- c. Reinforced- concrete, steel or timber (no plaster)
- d. Engineered Concrete and masonry (no plaster) buildings
- e. Buildings extremely susceptible to vibration damage
- f. Non-Engineered timber and masonry buildings

Figure 2. Summary of Construction Vibration Monitoring Data (VdB) - July 2016

