

OCT.  
2012

# VIRGINIA AVENUE TUNNEL

## VOLUME I // ISSUE V

SHARE YOUR  
THOUGHTS

[virginiaavenuetunnel.com](http://virginiaavenuetunnel.com)

email us  
[contact@virginiaavenuetunnel.com](mailto:contact@virginiaavenuetunnel.com)

(202) 681-0646

Steve Plano

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Attn: Virginia Avenue Tunnel Project

1401 K Street, NW, Suite 701

Washington, DC 20005

## PROJECT UPDATES



Community members gathered in the Capitol Skyline Hotel for the public meeting on September 27.



Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton presented her remarks on the meeting and project to attendees.

### Virginia Avenue Tunnel Public Meeting Held September 27

On September 27, 2012 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., FHWA and DDOT hosted a public meeting at the Capitol Skyline Hotel to provide an update on the Virginia Avenue Tunnel (VAT) project.

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton opened the meeting with brief remarks on the project. The project team then provided an overview of the project history, including its shift from an Environmental Assessment to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the four alternatives.

Following the opening presentations, attendees had the opportunity to speak directly with members of the project team at seven themed stations: alternative and construction sequencing, traffic and maintenance of traffic, construction practices and techniques, vibration, cultural resources/Section 106 and general questions. During this portion of the meeting, an audio/visual noise demonstration "Sounds of Transit" was presented.

At the end of the program, community members and the project team participated in a moderated Q&A session.

Materials from the public meeting, including a formal presentation and boards from the breakout sessions, can be found under the Public Involvement and Project Resources sections on <http://www.virginiaavenuetunnel.com>.



*During the breakout session, members of the community and project team discussed questions about project specifics.*

## Comments & Concerns:

Throughout the NEPA process, questions and comments from the public can be submitted and regular updates on this important project will be provided. Please continue to visit <http://www.virginiaavenuetunnel.com> for new updates on the Virginia Avenue Tunnel.

# VIRGINIA AVENUE TUNNEL BACKGROUND



*Looking west from the Virginia Avenue Tunnel portal near Garfield Park*



*A view of the east portal of the Tunnel*

Owned and maintained by CSX, the Virginia Avenue Tunnel is located in Southeast Washington, DC, beneath the eastbound lanes side of Virginia Avenue SE. By reconstructing Virginia Avenue Tunnel with a vertical height that will allow CSX to operate double-stack intermodal container freight trains, the railroad will be able to expand its capacity to transport freight in an environmentally sensitive manner. Furthermore, because the new tunnel will re-establish a second set of tracks, CSX will eliminate the chokepoint that currently delays all trains traveling through the Washington region.