

**PRECONSTRUCTION BACKGROUND NOISE MONITORING  
SUMMARY REPORT**

**VIRGINIA AVENUE TUNNEL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT  
WASHINGTON, DC**

**Prepared for:  
CSX Transportation**

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**April 2015**

# **VIRGINIA AVENUE TUNNEL RECONSTRUCTION**

## **Preconstruction Background Noise Monitoring Summary**

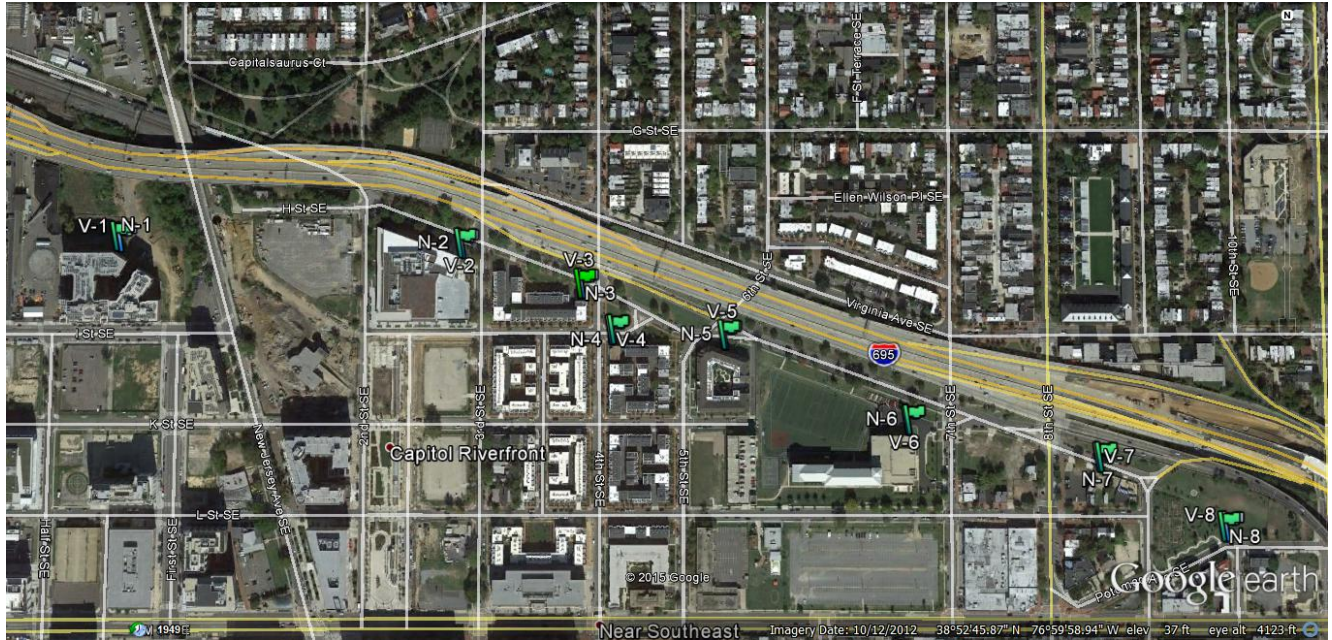
Gannett Fleming Inc. (GFI) has prepared this background noise monitoring report as part of the ongoing efforts to comply with the commitments presented in the Virginia Avenue Tunnel Reconstruction Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Section 4(f) Evaluation (May, 2014) and further detailed in the Record of Decision (ROD), November, 2014. 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 background noise monitoring summary report is intended to fulfill initial aspects of the noise monitoring commitments contained in the ROD for the Virginia Avenue Tunnel reconstruction.

GFI has installed perimeter noise monitoring stations adjacent to different various buildings within the Project limits. These monitoring stations are intended to monitor construction noise associated with the Project. Construction noise will be monitored throughout the Project's construction. Highly sophisticated monitoring devices have been installed at eight locations to ensure the construction activities are performed in compliance with the permitted noise levels. The monitoring devices will record the level of the sound and automatically report the data back to the Project engineers.

### **Methodology of Pre-Construction Noise Monitoring**

Pre-Construction sound level data was collected from late February 2015 to mid-March, 2015. Eight fixed noise monitoring locations were measured continuously for over two (2) weeks to determine Pre-construction ambient noise conditions. Sound level data was collected every minute for the duration of the noise monitoring period. The locations of the monitoring stations are depicted in Figure 1 and the addresses described in Table 1.

**Figure 1. Noise Monitoring Locations**



**Table 1. Noise Monitoring Locations Description**

Site ID	Noise Monitoring Location
N1	West of New Jersey Avenue SE
N2	Corner of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE
N3	Between 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and 4 <sup>th</sup> Street SE, in front of Townhomes
N4	Corner of 4 <sup>th</sup> Street and I Street SE
N5	Corner of 5 <sup>th</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE, in front of Caper Building
N6	Adjacent to fence of Navy Facility on 6 <sup>th</sup> Street SE
N7	In front of Building on 7 <sup>th</sup> Street SE
N8	Within Virginia Avenue Park

## Noise Data Summary Charts

Table 2 presents the results of the sound levels measured during the 20-day Pre-Construction period. These results are plotted in Figure 2 and show how the measured levels compare to the established noise criteria.

**Table 2. Pre-Construction Noise Monitoring Results**

Site ID	Noise Monitoring Location	Pre-Construction Monitoring		
		Leq dB(A)	Criteria dB(A)	Exceedance (Yes/No)
N1	West of New Jersey Avenue SE	67	80	No
N2	Corner of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE	66	80	No
N3	Between 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street and 4 <sup>th</sup> Street SE, in front of Townhomes	64	80	No
N4	Corner of 4 <sup>th</sup> Street and I Street SE	60	80	No
N5	Corner of 5 <sup>th</sup> Street and Virginia Avenue SE, in front of Caper Building	67	80	No
N6	Adjacent to fence of Navy Facility on 6 <sup>th</sup> Street SE	61	80	No
N7	In front of Building on 7 <sup>th</sup> Street SE	61	80	No
N8	Within Virginia Avenue Park	60	80	No

**Figure 2. Summary of Pre-Construction Background Noise Monitoring Data dB(A)**

