# Design and performance of a temporary concrete diaphragm wall excavation support system

South Boston, Massachusetts

Wystan Carswell, Ph.D., P.E.



#### **Presentation overview**

- Project description and site conditions
- Finite element model used for design



- Temporary Support of Excavation (SOE) performance
- Back modeling based on performance
- Conclusions and takeaways

1

2

3

4

5

## Support of Excavation plan

EAST SERVICE ROAD







5

## Site conditions





## SOE performance

#### Maximum theoretical (Mohr-Coulomb) vs. measured deformation

Parcel/Excavation:	M1/North		M2/South	
Section	Theoretical (mm)	Measured (mm)	Theoretical (mm)	Measured (mm)
Tieback	58	69	51	43
Internally-braced*	58	23	66	23
Center cross-section of tunnel	58	94	56	33

Limiting performance criteria by specification:

89 mm [3.5 in.]



## SOE performance Maximum theoretical vs. measured deformation



## SOE performance Maximum theoretical vs. measured deformation

Parcel/Excavation:	M1/North		M2/South	
Section	Theoretical (mm)	Measured (mm)	Theo (n	retical Measured Prediction was
Typical tieback	58	69	5	within 60-65% of
Typical internally-braced*	58	23	e	measurement
Center cross-section of tunnel	58	94	5	6 33

Limiting performance criteria by specification:

#### 89 mm [3.5 in.]

Max. tunnel movement:

#### 38 mm [1.5 in.]

**MEASURED:** 

#### 6.6 mm [0.26 in.]



## SOE performance Maximum theoretical vs. measured deformation



Limiting performance Criteria by specification:

89 mm [3.5 in.]



## Performance: (3) Different stages



## Hardening Soil model: Secant modulus, E<sub>50</sub>



## **Back-calculated moment**



#### **MOHR-COULOMB**

Did a better job at estimating design loading HS model



## **Conclusions & takeaways**

- Adjusting stiffness parameters of the Marine Clay layer had the biggest influence on wall movements
  - Secant modulus E<sub>50</sub> in later stages of excavation
- Mohr-Coulomb (MC) model was not good at estimating movements
  - Hardening Soil (HS) takes into account stressdependent stiffness
- Initial MC model was OK for structural design
  - Calibrated HS model was too rigid could not capture the curvature of the real wall



# Thank you! Questions?

#### **HALEY ALDRICH**

STI MANTE

Allen ....

Aprov

#### **Cone Penetrometer test**

