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APPENDIX D

RECOMMENDED GRADING SPECIFICATIONS

FOR

MEADOWOOD
(PANKEY RANCH)
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

PROJECT NO. 06931-42-01

RECOMMENDED GRADING SPECIFICATIONS

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 These Recommended Grading Specifications shall be used in conjunction with the Geotechnical Report for the project prepared by Geocon Incorporated. The recommendations contained in the text of the Geotechnical Report are a part of the earthwork and grading specifications and shall supersede the provisions contained hereinafter in the case of conflict.
- 1.2 Prior to the commencement of grading, a geotechnical consultant (Consultant) shall be employed for the purpose of observing earthwork procedures and testing the fills for substantial conformance with the recommendations of the Geotechnical Report and these specifications. The Consultant should provide adequate testing and observation services so that they may assess whether, in their opinion, the work was performed in substantial conformance with these specifications. It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to assist the Consultant and keep them apprised of work schedules and changes so that personnel may be scheduled accordingly.
- 1.3 It shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor to provide adequate equipment and methods to accomplish the work in accordance with applicable grading codes or agency ordinances, these specifications and the approved grading plans. If, in the opinion of the Consultant, unsatisfactory conditions such as questionable soil materials, poor moisture condition, inadequate compaction, adverse weather, result in a quality of work not in conformance with these specifications, the Consultant will be empowered to reject the work and recommend to the Owner that grading be stopped until the unacceptable conditions are corrected.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Owner** shall refer to the owner of the property or the entity on whose behalf the grading work is being performed and who has contracted with the Contractor to have grading performed.
- 2.2 **Contractor** shall refer to the Contractor performing the site grading work.
- 2.3 **Civil Engineer** or **Engineer of Work** shall refer to the California licensed Civil Engineer or consulting firm responsible for preparation of the grading plans, surveying and verifying as-graded topography.

- 2.4 **Consultant** shall refer to the soil engineering and engineering geology consulting firm retained to provide geotechnical services for the project.
- 2.5 **Soil Engineer** shall refer to a California licensed Civil Engineer retained by the Owner, who is experienced in the practice of geotechnical engineering. The Soil Engineer shall be responsible for having qualified representatives on-site to observe and test the Contractor's work for conformance with these specifications.
- 2.6 **Engineering Geologist** shall refer to a California licensed Engineering Geologist retained by the Owner to provide geologic observations and recommendations during the site grading.
- 2.7 **Geotechnical Report** shall refer to a soil report (including all addenda) which may include a geologic reconnaissance or geologic investigation that was prepared specifically for the development of the project for which these Recommended Grading Specifications are intended to apply.

3. MATERIALS

- 3.1 Materials for compacted fill shall consist of any soil excavated from the cut areas or imported to the site that, in the opinion of the Consultant, is suitable for use in construction of fills. In general, fill materials can be classified as *soil* fills, *soil-rock* fills or *rock* fills, as defined below.
- 3.1.1 **Soil fills** are defined as fills containing no rocks or hard lumps greater than 12 inches in maximum dimension and containing at least 40 percent by weight of material smaller than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in size.
- 3.1.2 **Soil-rock fills** are defined as fills containing no rocks or hard lumps larger than 4 feet in maximum dimension and containing a sufficient matrix of soil fill to allow for proper compaction of soil fill around the rock fragments or hard lumps as specified in Paragraph 6.2. **Oversize rock** is defined as material greater than 12 inches.
- 3.1.3 **Rock fills** are defined as fills containing no rocks or hard lumps larger than 3 feet in maximum dimension and containing little or no fines. Fines are defined as material smaller than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in maximum dimension. The quantity of fines shall be less than approximately 20 percent of the rock fill quantity.

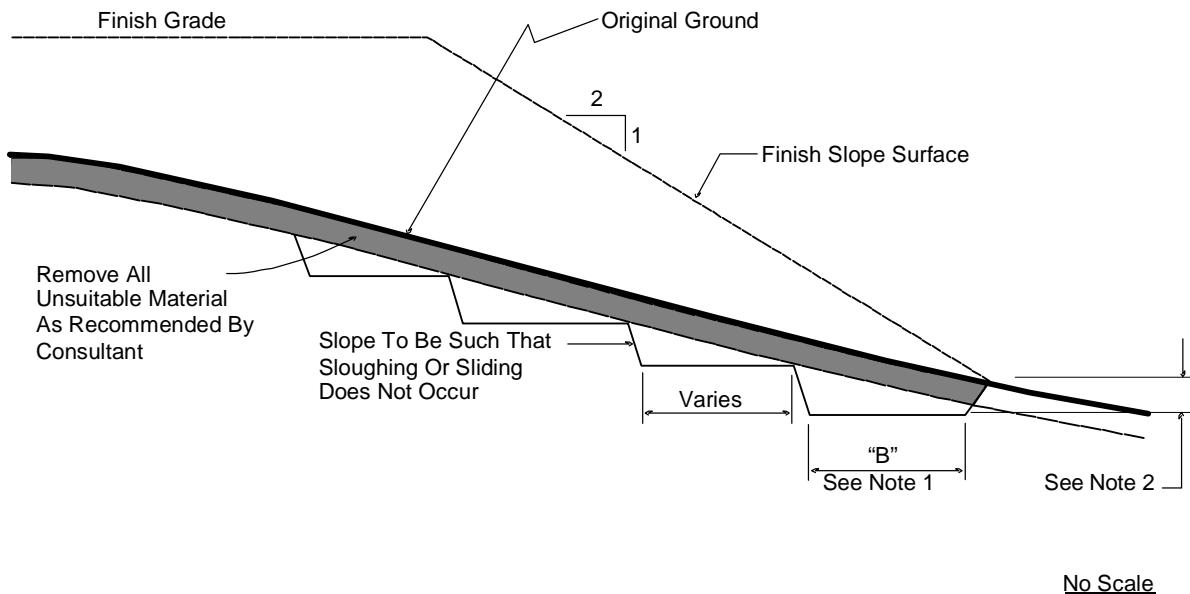
- 3.2 Material of a perishable, spongy, or otherwise unsuitable nature as determined by the Consultant shall not be used in fills.
- 3.3 Materials used for fill, either imported or on-site, shall not contain hazardous materials as defined by the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 30, Articles 9 and 10; 40CFR; and any other applicable local, state or federal laws. The Consultant shall not be responsible for the identification or analysis of the potential presence of hazardous materials. However, if observations, odors or soil discoloration cause Consultant to suspect the presence of hazardous materials, the Consultant may request from the Owner the termination of grading operations within the affected area. Prior to resuming grading operations, the Owner shall provide a written report to the Consultant indicating that the suspected materials are not hazardous as defined by applicable laws and regulations.
- 3.4 The outer 15 feet of *soil-rock* fill slopes, measured horizontally, should be composed of properly compacted *soil* fill materials approved by the Consultant. *Rock* fill may extend to the slope face, provided that the slope is not steeper than 2:1 (horizontal:vertical) and a soil layer no thicker than 12 inches is track-walked onto the face for landscaping purposes. This procedure may be utilized provided it is acceptable to the governing agency, Owner and Consultant.
- 3.5 Samples of soil materials to be used for fill should be tested in the laboratory by the Consultant to determine the maximum density, optimum moisture content, and, where appropriate, shear strength, expansion, and gradation characteristics of the soil.
- 3.6 During grading, soil or groundwater conditions other than those identified in the Geotechnical Report may be encountered by the Contractor. The Consultant shall be notified immediately to evaluate the significance of the unanticipated condition

4. CLEARING AND PREPARING AREAS TO BE FILLED

- 4.1 Areas to be excavated and filled shall be cleared and grubbed. Clearing shall consist of complete removal above the ground surface of trees, stumps, brush, vegetation, man-made structures, and similar debris. Grubbing shall consist of removal of stumps, roots, buried logs and other unsuitable material and shall be performed in areas to be graded. Roots and other projections exceeding 1½ inches in diameter shall be removed to a depth of 3 feet below the surface of the ground. Borrow areas shall be grubbed to the extent necessary to provide suitable fill materials.

- 4.2 Any asphalt pavement material removed during clearing operations should be properly disposed at an approved off-site facility. Concrete fragments that are free of reinforcing steel may be placed in fills, provided they are placed in accordance with Section 6.2 or 6.3 of this document.
- 4.3 After clearing and grubbing of organic matter and other unsuitable material, loose or porous soils shall be removed to the depth recommended in the Geotechnical Report. The depth of removal and compaction should be observed and approved by a representative of the Consultant. The exposed surface shall then be plowed or scarified to a minimum depth of 6 inches and until the surface is free from uneven features that would tend to prevent uniform compaction by the equipment to be used.
- 4.4 Where the slope ratio of the original ground is steeper than 5:1 (horizontal:vertical), or where recommended by the Consultant, the original ground should be benched in accordance with the following illustration.

TYPICAL BENCHING DETAIL



DETAIL NOTES:

- (1) Key width "B" should be a minimum of 10 feet, or sufficiently wide to permit complete coverage with the compaction equipment used. The base of the key should be graded horizontal, or inclined slightly into the natural slope.
- (2) The outside of the key should be below the topsoil or unsuitable surficial material and at least 2 feet into dense formational material. Where hard rock is exposed in the bottom of the key, the depth and configuration of the key may be modified as approved by the Consultant.

- 4.5 After areas to receive fill have been cleared and scarified, the surface should be moisture conditioned to achieve the proper moisture content, and compacted as recommended in Section 6 of these specifications.

5. COMPACTION EQUIPMENT

- 5.1 Compaction of *soil* or *soil-rock* fill shall be accomplished by sheepsfoot or segmented-steel wheeled rollers, vibratory rollers, multiple-wheel pneumatic-tired rollers, or other types of acceptable compaction equipment. Equipment shall be of such a design that it will be capable of compacting the *soil* or *soil-rock* fill to the specified relative compaction at the specified moisture content.
- 5.2 Compaction of *rock* fills shall be performed in accordance with Section 6.3.

6. PLACING, SPREADING AND COMPACTION OF FILL MATERIAL

- 6.1 *Soil* fill, as defined in Paragraph 3.1.1, shall be placed by the Contractor in accordance with the following recommendations:
- 6.1.1 *Soil* fill shall be placed by the Contractor in layers that, when compacted, should generally not exceed 8 inches. Each layer shall be spread evenly and shall be thoroughly mixed during spreading to obtain uniformity of material and moisture in each layer. The entire fill shall be constructed as a unit in nearly level lifts. Rock materials greater than 12 inches in maximum dimension shall be placed in accordance with Section 6.2 or 6.3 of these specifications.
- 6.1.2 In general, the *soil* fill shall be compacted at a moisture content at or above the optimum moisture content as determined by ASTM D 1557-02.
- 6.1.3 When the moisture content of *soil* fill is below that specified by the Consultant, water shall be added by the Contractor until the moisture content is in the range specified.
- 6.1.4 When the moisture content of the *soil* fill is above the range specified by the Consultant or too wet to achieve proper compaction, the *soil* fill shall be aerated by the Contractor by blading/mixing, or other satisfactory methods until the moisture content is within the range specified.

- 6.1.5 After each layer has been placed, mixed, and spread evenly, it shall be thoroughly compacted by the Contractor to a relative compaction of at least 90 percent. Relative compaction is defined as the ratio (expressed in percent) of the in-place dry density of the compacted fill to the maximum laboratory dry density as determined in accordance with ASTM D 1557-02. Compaction shall be continuous over the entire area, and compaction equipment shall make sufficient passes so that the specified minimum relative compaction has been achieved throughout the entire fill.
- 6.1.6 Where practical, soils having an Expansion Index greater than 50 should be placed at least 3 feet below finish pad grade and should be compacted at a moisture content generally 2 to 4 percent greater than the optimum moisture content for the material.
- 6.1.7 Properly compacted *soil* fill shall extend to the design surface of fill slopes. To achieve proper compaction, it is recommended that fill slopes be over-built by at least 3 feet and then cut to the design grade. This procedure is considered preferable to track-walking of slopes, as described in the following paragraph.
- 6.1.8 As an alternative to over-building of slopes, slope faces may be back-rolled with a heavy-duty loaded sheepsfoot or vibratory roller at maximum 4-foot fill height intervals. Upon completion, slopes should then be track-walked with a D-8 dozer or similar equipment, such that a dozer track covers all slope surfaces at least twice.
- 6.2 *Soil-rock* fill, as defined in Paragraph 3.1.2, shall be placed by the Contractor in accordance with the following recommendations:
- 6.2.1 Rocks larger than 12 inches but less than 4 feet in maximum dimension may be incorporated into the compacted *soil* fill, but shall be limited to the area measured 15 feet minimum horizontally from the slope face and 5 feet below finish grade or 3 feet below the deepest utility, whichever is deeper.
- 6.2.2 Rocks or rock fragments up to 4 feet in maximum dimension may either be individually placed or placed in windrows. Under certain conditions, rocks or rock fragments up to 10 feet in maximum dimension may be placed using similar methods. The acceptability of placing rock materials greater than 4 feet in maximum dimension shall be evaluated during grading as specific cases arise and shall be approved by the Consultant prior to placement.

- 6.2.3 For individual placement, sufficient space shall be provided between rocks to allow for passage of compaction equipment.
- 6.2.4 For windrow placement, the rocks should be placed in trenches excavated in properly compacted *soil* fill. Trenches should be approximately 5 feet wide and 4 feet deep in maximum dimension. The voids around and beneath rocks should be filled with approved granular soil having a Sand Equivalent of 30 or greater and should be compacted by flooding. Windrows may also be placed utilizing an "open-face" method in lieu of the trench procedure, however, this method should first be approved by the Consultant.
- 6.2.5 Windrows should generally be parallel to each other and may be placed either parallel to or perpendicular to the face of the slope depending on the site geometry. The minimum horizontal spacing for windrows shall be 12 feet center-to-center with a 5-foot stagger or offset from lower courses to next overlying course. The minimum vertical spacing between windrow courses shall be 2 feet from the top of a lower windrow to the bottom of the next higher windrow.
- 6.2.6 Rock placement, fill placement and flooding of approved granular soil in the windrows should be continuously observed by the Consultant.
- 6.3 *Rock* fills, as defined in Section 3.1.3, shall be placed by the Contractor in accordance with the following recommendations:
- 6.3.1 The base of the *rock* fill shall be placed on a sloping surface (minimum slope of 2 percent). The surface shall slope toward suitable subdrainage outlet facilities. The *rock* fills shall be provided with subdrains during construction so that a hydrostatic pressure buildup does not develop. The subdrains shall be permanently connected to controlled drainage facilities to control post-construction infiltration of water.
- 6.3.2 *Rock* fills shall be placed in lifts not exceeding 3 feet. Placement shall be by rock trucks traversing previously placed lifts and dumping at the edge of the currently placed lift. Spreading of the *rock* fill shall be by dozer to facilitate *seating* of the rock. The *rock* fill shall be watered heavily during placement. Watering shall consist of water trucks traversing in front of the current rock lift face and spraying water continuously during rock placement. Compaction equipment with compactive energy comparable to or greater than that of a 20-ton steel vibratory roller or other compaction equipment providing suitable energy to achieve the

required compaction or deflection as recommended in Paragraph 6.3.3 shall be utilized. The number of passes to be made should be determined as described in Paragraph 6.3.3. Once a *rock* fill lift has been covered with *soil* fill, no additional *rock* fill lifts will be permitted over the *soil* fill.

- 6.3.3 Plate bearing tests, in accordance with ASTM D 1196-93, may be performed in both the compacted *soil* fill and in the *rock* fill to aid in determining the required minimum number of passes of the compaction equipment. If performed, a minimum of three plate bearing tests should be performed in the properly compacted *soil* fill (minimum relative compaction of 90 percent). Plate bearing tests shall then be performed on areas of *rock* fill having two passes, four passes and six passes of the compaction equipment, respectively. The number of passes required for the *rock* fill shall be determined by comparing the results of the plate bearing tests for the *soil* fill and the *rock* fill and by evaluating the deflection variation with number of passes. The required number of passes of the compaction equipment will be performed as necessary until the plate bearing deflections are equal to or less than that determined for the properly compacted *soil* fill. In no case will the required number of passes be less than two.
- 6.3.4 A representative of the Consultant should be present during *rock* fill operations to observe that the minimum number of “passes” have been obtained, that water is being properly applied and that specified procedures are being followed. The actual number of plate bearing tests will be determined by the Consultant during grading.
- 6.3.5 Test pits shall be excavated by the Contractor so that the Consultant can state that, in their opinion, sufficient water is present and that voids between large rocks are properly filled with smaller rock material. In-place density testing will not be required in the *rock* fills.
- 6.3.6 To reduce the potential for “piping” of fines into the *rock* fill from overlying *soil* fill material, a 2-foot layer of graded filter material shall be placed above the uppermost lift of *rock* fill. The need to place graded filter material below the *rock* should be determined by the Consultant prior to commencing grading. The gradation of the graded filter material will be determined at the time the *rock* fill is being excavated. Materials typical of the *rock* fill should be submitted to the Consultant in a timely manner, to allow design of the graded filter prior to the commencement of *rock* fill placement.
- 6.3.7 *Rock* fill placement should be continuously observed during placement by the Consultant.

7. OBSERVATION AND TESTING

- 7.1 The Consultant shall be the Owner's representative to observe and perform tests during clearing, grubbing, filling, and compaction operations. In general, no more than 2 feet in vertical elevation of *soil* or *soil-rock* fill should be placed without at least one field density test being performed within that interval. In addition, a minimum of one field density test should be performed for every 2,000 cubic yards of *soil* or *soil-rock* fill placed and compacted.
- 7.2 The Consultant should perform a sufficient distribution of field density tests of the compacted *soil* or *soil-rock* fill to provide a basis for expressing an opinion whether the fill material is compacted as specified. Density tests shall be performed in the compacted materials below any disturbed surface. When these tests indicate that the density of any layer of fill or portion thereof is below that specified, the particular layer or areas represented by the test shall be reworked until the specified density has been achieved.
- 7.3 During placement of *rock* fill, the Consultant should observe that the minimum number of passes have been obtained per the criteria discussed in Section 6.3.3. The Consultant should request the excavation of observation pits and may perform plate bearing tests on the placed *rock* fills. The observation pits will be excavated to provide a basis for expressing an opinion as to whether the *rock* fill is properly seated and sufficient moisture has been applied to the material. When observations indicate that a layer of *rock* fill or any portion thereof is below that specified, the affected layer or area shall be reworked until the *rock* fill has been adequately seated and sufficient moisture applied.
- 7.4 A settlement monitoring program designed by the Consultant may be conducted in areas of *rock* fill placement. The specific design of the monitoring program shall be as recommended in the Conclusions and Recommendations section of the project Geotechnical Report or in the final report of testing and observation services performed during grading.
- 7.5 The Consultant should observe the placement of subdrains, to verify that the drainage devices have been placed and constructed in substantial conformance with project specifications.
- 7.6 Testing procedures shall conform to the following Standards as appropriate:

7.6.1 Soil and Soil-Rock Fills:

- 7.6.1.1 Field Density Test, ASTM D 1556-02, *Density of Soil In-Place By the Sand-Cone Method.*
- 7.6.1.2 Field Density Test, Nuclear Method, ASTM D 2922-01, *Density of Soil and Soil-Aggregate In-Place by Nuclear Methods (Shallow Depth).*
- 7.6.1.3 Laboratory Compaction Test, ASTM D 1557-02, *Moisture-Density Relations of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures Using 10-Pound Hammer and 18-Inch Drop.*
- 7.6.1.4 Expansion Index Test, ASTM D 4829-03, *Expansion Index Test.*

7.6.2 Rock Fills

- 7.6.2.1 Field Plate Bearing Test, ASTM D 1196-93 (Reapproved 1997) *Standard Method for Nonreparative Static Plate Load Tests of Soils and Flexible Pavement Components, For Use in Evaluation and Design of Airport and Highway Pavements.*

8. PROTECTION OF WORK

- 8.1 During construction, the Contractor shall properly grade all excavated surfaces to provide positive drainage and prevent ponding of water. Drainage of surface water shall be controlled to avoid damage to adjoining properties or to finished work on the site. The Contractor shall take remedial measures to prevent erosion of freshly graded areas until such time as permanent drainage and erosion control features have been installed. Areas subjected to erosion or sedimentation shall be properly prepared in accordance with the Specifications prior to placing additional fill or structures.
- 8.2 After completion of grading as observed and tested by the Consultant, no further excavation or filling shall be conducted except in conjunction with the services of the Consultant.

9. CERTIFICATIONS AND FINAL REPORTS

- 9.1 Upon completion of the work, Contractor shall furnish Owner a certification by the Civil Engineer stating that the lots and/or building pads are graded to within 0.1 foot vertically of elevations shown on the grading plan and that all tops and toes of slopes are within 0.5 foot horizontally of the positions shown on the grading plans. After installation of a section of subdrain, the project Civil Engineer should survey its location and prepare an *as-built* plan of the subdrain location. The project Civil Engineer should verify the proper outlet for the subdrains and the Contractor should ensure that the drain system is free of obstructions.
- 9.2 The Owner is responsible for furnishing a final as-graded soil and geologic report satisfactory to the appropriate governing or accepting agencies. The as-graded report should be prepared and signed by a California licensed Civil Engineer experienced in geotechnical engineering and by a California Certified Engineering Geologist, indicating that the geotechnical aspects of the grading were performed in substantial conformance with the Specifications or approved changes to the Specifications.