



Soils Report Waiver Request

Town of Atherton
Building Department
80 Fair Oaks Ln
Atherton, California 94027
Phone: (650) 752-0560
Inspection requests:
(650) 752-0542

Waiver Request Instructions:

The design professional in responsible charge of the structural design (a California licensed engineer or architect) may request that the Building Department waive the requirement for a soils investigation report. The waiver request must be based on their observations and professional opinion that the site conditions and proposed construction do not indicate that such a report is necessary. In the event that a California licensed geotechnical engineer is involved with the project, said engineer must conduct the observations and complete the waiver request.

Refer to the relevant portion of the 2022 California Building Code (CBC) §1803 (§1803.2 and §1803.3 in particular.) The investigated conditions that are required to be investigated and addressed in a soils investigation report are outlined in sections the 2022 CBC §1803.5.1 through §1803.5.12.

Answer the questions on pages two and three of this form. If the answer to any of the questions in items 2 through 12 is “Yes” then a full soils investigation report will be required pursuant to the 2022 CBC requirements.

If the answers to all of the questions (items 2 through 12) are “No” then the design professional in responsible charge must wet-stamp and sign the waiver request and submit the request to the Town of Atherton Building Department for review by the Chief Building Official. Please note that in the absence of a Geotechnical Report the maximum allowable soil bearing pressure used for foundation design is 1500 psf per 2022 CBC Table 1806.2 for Type 5 soil.

The design professional in responsible charge must have full confidence that all answers to questions 2 through 12 are “No”, as the Town and property owner(s) are relying on his/her observations and conclusions as the basis for the waiver. All potential present and future liability is wholly on the design professional requesting the waiver.

In order to perform a timely review this form must be submitted at the time of permit application, along with all other required submittal documents.

Prior to submittal ensure that this form is wet-stamped and signed by the design professional.



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PROJECT ADDRESS: _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: _____

1. **Classification:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.1)
Provide a classification of the soil materials in accordance with ASTM D 2487. _____

2. **Questionable Soil:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.2) Yes No
Are there soil conditions or is there evidence, from existing structures on the site, that indicate the presence of soils with questionable bearing capacity?

3. **Expansive Soil:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.3) Yes No
Are there soil conditions or is there evidence, from existing structures on the site, that indicate the presence of expansive soils?

4. **Deep Foundations:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.5) Yes No
Does the design utilize a pile, pier, or any other deep-foundation method?

5. **Rock Strata:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.6) Yes No
Is the site West of Alameda De Las Pulgas and/or are there issues that indicate variations or doubtful characteristics in the subsurface rock strata?

6. **Excavations Near Foundations:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.7) Yes No
Will there be any excavation on the site that will remove lateral support from any foundations?

7. **Compacted Fill:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.8) Yes No
Does the design include any shallow foundations bearing on compacted fill that are more than 6" in depth?

8. **Controlled Low-Strength Material:** (2022 CBC §1803.5.9) Yes No
Will any shallow foundations bear on the fill of controlled low-strength material?

9. **Has a geotechnical investigation ever been conducted at the proposed site?** Yes No

10. **Is the proposed site located in a potential landslide or liquefaction zone per the latest California Geologic Survey Maps?** Yes No

11. **Does the project have a basement and/or are there any retaining walls that retain more than 6'- 0" of soil and are there any surcharges being imposed on any of these structures?** Yes No

12. **Has an existing structure, or will an existing structure, be demolished where the footprint of the proposed structure will be located.** Yes No

I (the registered design professional) have completed the above questionnaire and believe the above answers to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Further, it is my professional opinion that this site does not require a geotechnical investigation to be performed based on the design of the proposed structures to be constructed. I hereby assume full liability, both present and future, in this regard.

Registered Design Professional and Stamp

License Number

Date