

March 7, 2025

JN 24300

Sharon Falkner  
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via email: [skgolf6@hotmail.com](mailto:skgolf6@hotmail.com)

Subject: **Review of Plans**  
Proposed Carport Expansion and Retaining Wall  
5602 East Mercer Way  
Mercer Island, Washington

Greetings:

We have completed a general review of the geotechnical aspects of the plans for the carport expansion and retaining wall to be constructed at 5602 East Mercer Way, Mercer Island. The plans we reviewed include: 1) Sheets 1 through 5, which were prepared by Bassett Larsen Design dated December 12, 2024, and 2), Sheets S-1.0 through S-3.0, which were prepared by CK Engineering LLC dated March 5, 2025. We completed a geotechnical engineering study for this project dated October 17, 2025.

Following a review done by the City of Mercer Island, it came to our attention that the retaining wall was designed with an active pressure that corresponded to a flat backslope, but the backslope is actually sloped. We recently had correspondence with the design team and recommended that the active pressure therefore be increased from 35 pcf to 50 pcf to account for the sloping condition. This increase is now included in current plans.

In our judgment, the plans conform to the recommendations in our geotechnical engineering study and the active pressure increase noted above. In accordance with Mercer Island Code, a "Statement of Risk" is required from the geotechnical engineer of record. As such, provided the geotechnical recommendations we have provided are followed, the following statement is made:

*The development has been designed so that the risk to the lot and adjacent property is mitigated such that the site is determined to be safe.*

If there are any questions regarding this letter, please contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

GEOTECH CONSULTANTS, INC.

D. Robert Ward, P.E.  
Principal



3/07/2025

cc: **Bassett Larsen Design LLC** – Cindy Larsen  
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