GEOTECH
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January 28, 2025

JN 23390

Doug Rosen c/o Neiman Taber Architects
1435 – 34th Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98122
via email: dt@neimantaber.com

Subject: **Review of Plans/Project Update Letter**
Proposed Terrace Extension Project
5995 Southeast 30th Street
Mercer Island, Washington

Greetings:

We completed a geotechnical engineering study (Study) for this project dated December 4, 2023. Plans for the project were prepared following the completion of the Study, and these were recently updated. In addition, we recently received a copy of a letter that was prepared by the City of Mercer Island dated October 28, 2024 that requested, among other things, that our firm review the plans and prepare a Statement of Risk per Mercer Island Code (MICC), as well as discuss mitigation sequencing for the project. This letter provides information regarding the requests.

Per City of Mercer Island designations as noted in their GIS portal, the site has potentially three geologic hazard areas: Seismic Hazard, Landslide Hazard, and Erosion Hazard. As noted in the Study, the soil and slope conditions are such that the project area is neither a Seismic Hazard Area nor a Landslide Hazard Area. The only Hazard Area the project area qualifies for is an Erosion Hazard Area.

Mitigation Sequencing

The first part of mitigation sequencing is to avoid the Hazard Area; however, this is not possible because the project area is within the onsite Erosion Hazard Area. The next level of sequencing is to minimize disturbance in this Area. Based on the project plans, disturbance will be kept to a minimum outside of the disturbance area; this can be done because the excavations needed for the project are relatively small and will be done with hand equipment. Also, the largest portion of the onsite Erosion Hazard Area will not be disturbed for this project. In addition, a silt fence/straw waddle will be placed on the downslope side of the disturbance area for the control of any potential erosion. Therefore, we believe that the potential for erosion in the project area is being mitigated. It is our professional opinion that the project is very suitable from a geotechnical engineering perspective.

Review of Plans

The plans we reviewed include: 1) Sheets A000 through 501, which were prepared by Neiman Taber Architects dated January 31, 2025, 2) Sheets S1.1 through A3.1, which were prepared by Harriott Valentine Engineers dated September 19, 2024, and 3) Sheets LP1.1 and LP1.2, which were prepared by Ohashi Landscape Services dated January 25, 2025. In our judgment, the plans conform to the recommendations in our Study and this letter.

As required by the City of Mercer Island, an updated Statement of Risk is needed for this project. As such, the following statement is made:

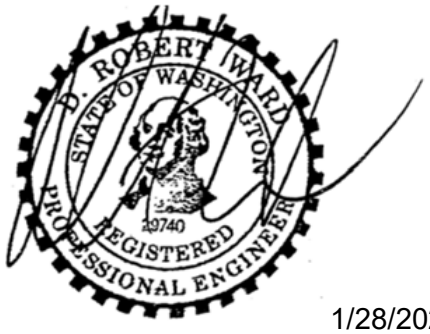
Statement of Risk: In order to satisfy the City of Mercer Island's requirements, a statement of risk is needed. As such, we make the following statement:

> *Based on the plans we reviewed, it is our professional opinion that the recommendations presented in this report for the proposed terrace will render the development as safe as if it were not located in a geologically hazardous area and will not adversely impact adjacent properties.*

If there are any questions regarding this review letter, or if we can be of further service, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

GEOTECH CONSULTANTS, INC.



1/28/2025

D. Robert Ward, P.E.
Principal

DRW:kg