Appendix G

Geotechnical Peer Review of Groundwater Recharge

BYER GEOTECHNICAL, INC.

August 17, 2022
BG 23478

Harvard-Westlake School
700 North Faring Road
Los Angeles, California 90077

Attention: Mr. Jim DeMatte

Subject

Geotechnical Engineering Opinion
Regarding the Suitability of the Site for Surface Drainage Infiltration
Lot 1, Tract 19434
4141 North Whitsett Avenue
Studio City, California

Reference: Report by Geotechnologies, Inc.:

Geotechnical Engineering Investigation, Proposed Academic and Athletic Development, 4141 Whisett Avenue, Studio City, California, dated July 2, 2019, Revised June 19, 2020.

Dear Mr. DeMatte:

At your request, Byer Geotechnical has reviewed the referenced Geotechnical Engineering Investigation and prepared this opinion letter concerning the suitability of the subject property for on-site infiltration of collected surface drainage, associated with the proposed site improvements.

The Federal Clear Water Act of 1972, and the 1987 Amendments, establish a structure for regulating the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters. As a result, the Environmental Protection Agency developed national water quality criteria for pollutants in surface waters, using the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. In California, the NPDES stormwater permitting program is administered by the State Water Resources Control Regional Boards. In 1996, the Los Angeles Regional Water

Quality Control Board adopted a NPDES Stormwater Permit for the County of Los Angeles, and the cities within.

The City of Los Angeles adopted the Stormwater Low Impact Development (LID) Ordinance in November, 2011, to achieve the permit goal, which is a strategy that seeks to mitigate the impacts of increased runoff and stormwater pollution, as close to the source as possible, using Best Management Practices (BMPs) that promote the use of natural systems for infiltration, evapotranspiration and use of stormwater, rather than discharge it to the street or storm drain.

The site is located on a Liquefaction Hazard Zone as described in the referenced report and shown on the California Geological Survey Seismic Hazard Zone Map for the Van Nuys Quadrangle. As part of the referenced investigation. Geotechnologies, Inc., performed subsurface exploration including hollow-stem auger borings and Electronic Cone Penetrometers as described in the referenced report. Groundwater was reported in the natural alluvium at depths of 24½ to 49½ feet below grade, perched on the bedrock contact which was encountered at 42½ to 56½ feet below grade. Geotechnologies also performed an analyses of the potential for layers in the alluvium to liquefy, and concluded that several layers are subject to liquefaction. Based on this analysis, Geotechnologies provided their finding that "On-Site infiltration of collected subsurface drainage would acute the existing perched water condition", and re-iterated their finding that the "native alluvial site soils are prone to liquefaction when saturated".

Under Infiltration Feasibility Screening in the city LID Ordinance, a site fails in one of three categories, (feasible, potentially feasible, and infeasible), based on the underlying groundwater, site soils and site surroundings. Category 3 (infeasible) is applicable for projects where geotechnical hazards such as liquefaction exist, as is the case for this project.

Therefore, Byer Geotechnical concurs with Geotechnologies that infiltration at this site is not feasible.

Byer Geotechnical appreciates the opportunity to provide our opinion. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call on us.

Respectfully submitted,
BYER GEOTECHNICAL, INC.

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xc: (1) Addressee (E-mail and Mail)