

June 2, 2021

City of Puyallup Attention: Ryan Rutkosky, PE 333 S. Meridian Puyallup, WA 98371

Re: Groundwater Level Monitoring and Preliminary Infiltration Feasibility Evaluation

City of Puyallup AOB Parking Lot 330 3rd Street NW Puyallup, Washington Project No. 200589

Dear Ryan:

This report summarizes Aspect Consulting, LLC's (Aspect) groundwater level monitoring and preliminary infiltration feasibility evaluation for the City of Puyallup AOB Parking Lot located at 330 3rd Street NW in Puyallup, Washington (Site).

Executive Summary

The pertinent conclusions of our study are summarized below.

- Seasonal high groundwater was recorded on January 13, 2021, at approximately 4.5 feet below the ground/pavement surface in B-1 and 3.5 feet below the ground/pavement surface in B-2. Based on precipitation data, the seasonal high groundwater is a peak, short-term response to the precipitation that occurred in the preceding days. Ignoring this peak response, a more representative seasonal high groundwater level is approximately 5 feet below the ground/pavement surface in B-1 and 4 feet below the ground/pavement surface in B-2.
- Due to the shallow depth to groundwater, infiltration would need to occur within the nearsurface fill soil. Based on grain-size correlations on three samples within the fill, the estimated saturated hydraulic conductivity of the fill soil ranges between 0.5 and 21 inches per hour. Based on the fine-grained nature of the fill soil and the relatively low estimated saturated hydraulic conductivity, we conclude that the Site soils have low infiltration potential. The shallow depth to groundwater is an additional constraint on infiltration facilities that further limits the potential for infiltration at the Site.

Project Understanding

We understand the City of Puyallup (City) is seeking to determine the seasonal high groundwater and a preliminary evaluation of infiltration feasibility at the Site, which is currently occupied by an asphalt surface parking lot.

Scope of Work

earth + water

Our authorized scope of work including the following:

1. **Document and code review.** This consisted of review of an existing geotechnical engineering report for the Site and current stormwater code/regulations adopted by the City.

- 2. **Groundwater Level Monitoring.** This consisted of deploying a submersible water level data logger in each of the two existing monitoring wells at the Site to record groundwater levels between December 2020 and May 2021, and intermittent site visits to download data from the data loggers.
- 3. **Infiltration Feasibility Evaluation and Technical Memo.** This consisted of summarizing the results of groundwater level monitoring and infiltration feasibility evaluation (including a preliminary infiltration rate) in a technical report.

Document and Code Review

We have reviewed data and information contained in the following documents:

- Geotechnical Engineering Services, AOB Site Development, Puyallup, Washington (GeoEngineers, 2011). This geotechnical engineering study was completed for the City to inform possible future development at the Site. Of relevance to our study, the report includes the logs of three geotechnical borings (designated B-1 through B-3; B-1 and B-2 were completed as monitoring wells and are the wells we used to monitor groundwater levels) and the results of laboratory testing (grain-size analyses) on three samples from the borings. The locations of the monitoring wells are shown in Attachment 1. The logs of the borings and the results of laboratory testing are presented in Attachments 2 and 3, respectively, of this report.
- 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW), as Amended in December 2014 (Ecology, 2014). We understand this version of the SWMMWW is currently adopted by the City.

Subsurface Conditions

Our understanding of the Site subsurface conditions is based on the information presented on the boring logs in the GeoEngineers report (2011). Based on the GeoEngineers report, the Site is immediately underlain by 2 to 5 feet of fill. The fill consists of loose, moist, silty sand (SM)¹ and sandy silt (ML). The fill is underlain by alluvium consisting of interbedded very soft to medium stiff silt with sand (ML) and loose to sand with varying amount of silt (SP and SP-SM) within the upper 20 feet before becoming predominantly medium dense to dense sand with varying amount of silt (SP, SP-SM, and SM) that extends to the maximum depths explored in the borings (approximately 80 feet below the ground/pavement surface).

Groundwater Level Monitoring

We monitored groundwater levels at the Site over a 5-month period between December 8, 2020, and May 11, 2021, using submersible data loggers deployed in the monitoring wells in B-1 and B-2. The data loggers were programmed to record groundwater levels every 60 minutes. The seasonal high groundwater level was recorded on January 13 in both wells, at approximately 4.5 feet below the ground surface in B-1 and 3.5 feet below the ground surface in B-2. The seasonal high appears as a distinct spike on the plot of recorded groundwater levels, which indicates it is in response to the precipitation that occurred in the preceding days.

¹ Soils classified in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS)

The plots of recorded groundwater levels over the 5-month monitoring period are presented on Figure 1. Precipitation data is included on the plot.

Infiltration Feasibility Evaluation

Infiltration feasibility depends on several factors, such as hydraulic conductivity of the receptor soils, depth to ground water, and depth/size of the infiltration facility. Each of these factors is discussed below.

Hydraulic Conductivity of Receptor Soils

Based on the shallow depth to groundwater, infiltration will need to occur within the fill soil and/or the fine-grained alluvium. We used the results of grain-size analyses on three soil samples within the fill and presented in the GeoEngineers report (2011) and the Soil Grain Size Analysis Method outlined in the SWMMWW to estimate the saturated hydraulic conductivity (K_{sat}) of the fill soil. The estimated K_{sat} using the Soil Analysis Method is presented in Table 1, below.

Exploration	Sample Depth (feet)	Soil Unit and Classification	K _{sat} (in/hr)
B-1	0	Fill; silty sand (SM)	21.0
B-2	2.5	Fill; silt with sand (ML)	0.7
B-3	2.5	Fill; sandy silt (ML)	2.5

Table 1. Estimated K_{sat} using the Soil Analysis Method

The Soil Grain Size Analysis Method uses the grain size for which 10, 60, and 90 percent of the sample is finer, as well as the fines fraction. It should be noted that the samples for which particle-size analyses were conducted had fines fractions ranging between 0.16 and 0.84 (fines content between 16 and 84 percent). Where fines content of a sample exceeds 10 percent, the grain size for which 10 percent of the sampler is finer (D₁₀) should be determined using a hydrometer analysis. A hydrometer analysis was not conducted on the samples; therefore, we extrapolated the grain-size curves using our best estimate. It should also be noted that fill soil is typically heterogeneous, which is evidenced by the variable estimated infiltration rates. Considering this, the fill soil at the Site may contain layers or zones that exhibit a higher or lower saturated hydraulic conductivity than the estimates presented above.

The estimated saturated hydraulic conductivities presented above are preliminary and are based solely on correlations to soil grain size. Actual saturated hydraulic activities will need to be verified in the field through infiltration testing on a project-specific basis. Design infiltration rates typically include a factor of safety/reduction factor applied to the field-measured hydraulic conductivity based on Site variability, uncertainty in the test method used, and the potential for siltation of the infiltration facility: therefore, design infiltration rates would be lower than those presented above.

Depth to Groundwater and Minimum Separation from Infiltration Facilities

The SWMMWW provides the following minimum vertical separation requirements between the bottom of the infiltration facility and seasonal high groundwater for infiltration facilities:

• 1 foot for rain gardens

- 1 to 3 feet (varies depending on area of impervious surface) for bioretention facilities, swales, and planter boxes
- 1 foot below the bottom of base course for permeable pavement

Considering the depth to seasonal high groundwater ranges between 3.5 to 4.5 feet below the ground/pavement surface, the bottom of infiltration facilities cannot be deeper than about 2.5 to 3.5 feet below the existing ground/pavement surface to maintain the minimum separation.

Infiltration Infeasibility Criteria

The SWMMWW provides a list of infiltration infeasibility criteria, any of which can be cited to exclude infiltration from consideration. Included in the list of criteria are the following:

- The minimum vertical separation between groundwater and the bottom of the infiltration facility cannot be achieved.
- Field testing indicates potential infiltration sites have a measured saturated hydraulic conductivity less than 0.3 inches per hour.

These criteria will need to be evaluated by others in the future on a project-specific basis. Based on the combination of 1) the fine-grained nature of the near-surface fill soil in which infiltration would need to occur and 2) the relatively low estimates of saturated hydraulic conductivity of the fill soil based on grain size, the Site soils appear to have relatively low infiltration potential.

References

GeoEngineers, 2011, AOB Site Redevelopment, September 30, 2011.

Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), 2014, 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, 2014 Revision.

Limitations

Work for this project was performed for the City of Puyallup (Client), and this report was prepared consistent with recognized standards of professionals in the same locality and involving similar conditions, at the time the work was performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made by Aspect Consulting, LLC (Aspect).

Recommendations presented herein are based on our interpretation of site conditions, geotechnical engineering calculations, and judgment in accordance with our mutually agreed-upon scope of work. Our recommendations are unique and specific to the project, site, and Client. Application of this report for any purpose other than the project should be done only after consultation with Aspect.

Variations may exist between the soil and groundwater conditions reported and those actually underlying the site. The nature and extent of such soil variations may change over time and may not be evident before construction begins. If any soil conditions are encountered at the site that are different from those described in this report, Aspect should be notified immediately to review the applicability of our recommendations. City of Puyallup June 2, 2021

It is the Client's responsibility to see that all parties to this project, including the designer, contractor, subcontractors, and agents, are made aware of this report in its entirety. At the time of this report, design plans and construction methods have not been finalized, and the recommendations presented herein are based on preliminary project information. If project developments result in changes from the preliminary project information, Aspect should be contacted to determine if our recommendations contained in this report should be revised and/or expanded upon.

The scope of work does not include services related to construction safety precautions. Site safety is typically the responsibility of the contractor, and our recommendations are not intended to direct the contractor's site safety methods, techniques, sequences, or procedures. The scope of our work also does not include the assessment of environmental characteristics, particularly those involving potentially hazardous substances in soil or groundwater.

All reports prepared by Aspect for the Client apply only to the services described in the Agreement(s) with the Client. Any use or reuse by any party other than the Client is at the sole risk of that party, and without liability to Aspect. Aspect's original files/reports shall govern in the event of any dispute regarding the content of electronic documents furnished to others.

Please refer to Attachment 4 titled "Report Limitations and Guidelines for Use" for additional information governing the use of this report.

City of Puyallup June 2, 2021

We appreciate the opportunity to perform these services.

Sincerely,

Aspect consulting, LLC

Henry H. Haselton, PE, PMP Principal Geotechnical Engineer hhaselton@aspectconsulting.com



Eric Schellenger, PE Project Engineer eschellenger@aspectconsulting.com

Attachments:	Figure 1 – Recorded Groundwater Levels
	Attachment 1 – Site Plan (by others)
	Attachment 2 – Boring Logs (by others)
	Attachment 3 – Results of Geotechnical Laboratory Testing (by others)
	Appendix 4 – Report Limitations and Guidelines for Use

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FIGURE



CAD Path: Q:\City of Puyallup\200589\200589-01 May 2021.dwg Fig 1 || Date Saved: May 19, 2021 2:09pm || User: cvanslyke

ATTACHMENT 1

Site Plan (by others)



CO JAR SCY

ATTACHMENT 2

Boring Logs (by others)

MAJOR DIVISIONS			SYMB GRAPH	OLS _ETTER	TYPICAL DESCRIPTIONS
	GRAVEL	CLEAN GRAVELS		GW	WELL-GRADED GRAVELS, GRAVEL - SAND MIXTURES
	AND GRAVELLY SOILS	(LITTLE OR NO FINES)		GP	POORLY-GRADED GRAVELS, GRAVEL - SAND MIXTURES
COARSE GRAINED	MORE THAN 50% OF COARSE	GRAVELS WITH FINES		GM	SILTY GRAVELS, GRAVEL - SAND - SILT MIXTURES
SOILS	FRACTION RETAINED ON NO. 4 SIEVE	(APPRECIABLE AMOUNT OF FINES)		GC	CLAYEY GRAVELS, GRAVEL - SAND - CLAY MIXTURES
MORE THAN 50%	SAND	CLEAN SANDS		sw	WELL-GRADED SANDS, GRAVELLY SANDS
ETAINED ON NO. 200 SIEVE	AND SANDY SOILS	(LITTLE OR NO FINES)		SP	POORLY-GRADED SANDS, GRAVELLY SAND
	MORE THAN 50% OF COARSE FRACTION	SANDS WITH FINES		SM	SILTY SANDS, SAND - SILT MIXTURES
	PASSING NO. 4 SIEVE	(APPRECIABLE AMOUNT OF FINES)		SC	CLAYEY SANDS, SAND - CLAY MIXTURES
				ML	INORGANIC SILTS, ROCK FLOUR, CLAYEY SILTS WITH SLIGHT PLASTICITY
	SILTS AND CLAYS	LIQUID LIMIT LESS THAN 50		CL	INORGANIC CLAYS OF LOW TO MEDIUM PLASTICITY, GRAVELLY CLAYS, SANDY CLAYS, SILTY CLAYS, LEAN CLAYS
SOILS				OL	ORGANIC SILTS AND ORGANIC SILTY CLAYS OF LOW PLASTICITY
MORE THAN 50% ASSING NO. 200 SIEVE				мн	INORGANIC SILTS, MICACEOUS OR DIATOMACEOUS SILTY SOILS
	SILTS AND CLAYS	LIQUID LIMIT GREATER THAN 50		СН	INORGANIC CLAYS OF HIGH PLASTICITY
			hip	ОН	ORGANIC CLAYS AND SILTS OF MEDIUM TO HIGH PLASTICITY
HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS			7 <u></u> 7 <u></u>	PT	PEAT, HUMUS, SWAMP SOILS WITH HIGH ORGANIC CONTENTS
	Sample 2.4- Sta She Pis Sor Sur Sur	r Symbol D -inch I.D. split ndard Penetra elby tube ton hic Core k or grab	escriptic	ons (SPT)	
Blow of blo dista and o A "P'	count is reco ows required nce noted). drop.	orded for drive to advance sa See exploratio ampler pushed	en sampler ampler 12 on log for l d using the	rs as th inches namme e weigh	e number (or r weight t of the

DDITIONAL MATERIAL SYMBOLS

SYMBOLS		TYPICAL	
GRAPH	LETTER	DESCRIPTIONS	
	сс	Cement Concrete	
	AC	Asphalt Concrete	
	CR	Crushed Rock/ Quarry Spalls	
	TS	Topsoil/ Forest Duff/Sod	

- Measured groundwater level in exploration, well, or piezometer
- Groundwater observed at time of exploration
- Perched water observed at time of exploration
- Measured free product in well or piezometer

Graphic Log Contact

Distinct contact between soil strata or geologic units Approximate location of soil strata change within a geologic soil unit

Material Description Contact

- Distinct contact between soil strata or geologic units
- ____ Approximate location of soil strata change within a geologic soil unit

Laboratory / Field Tests

Per	cent	fines	;

- Atterberg limits
- Chemical analysis
- 2 Laboratory compaction test
- S Consolidation test
- Direct shear Hydrometer analysis
- Moisture content
- Moisture content and dry density
- Organic content
- Permeability or hydraulic conductivity Pocket penetrometer
- Sieve analysis
- Triaxial compression
- Unconfined compression
- Vane shear

Sheen Classification

- No Visible Sheen
- Slight Sheen
- Moderate Sheen Heavy Sheen
- Not Tested

NOTE: The reader must refer to the discussion in the report text and the logs of explorations for a proper understanding of subsurface conditions. Descriptions on the logs apply only at the specific exploration locations and at the time the explorations were made; they are not warranted to be representative of subsurface conditions at other locations or times.

representative of subsurface conditions at other locations or times. KEY TO EXPLORATION LOGS GEOENGINEERS 0 FIGURE A-1



Project Location: Puyallup, Washington

Project Number: 0402-030-00

GEOENGINEERS

GEOENGINEERS8.GDT/GEI8_GEOTECH_WEL

DBTe 402030.GPJ

Path

Figure A-2 Sheet 1 of 1



Note: See Figure A-1 for explanation of symbols.

Log of Boring B-2



Project:City of Puyallup - AOB SiteProject Location:Puyallup, WashingtonProject Number:0402-030-00Sheet 1 of 1



Project Number: 0402-030-00

oma: Date:9/8/11 Path:P:/0/0402030/GINT/0402030/GPJ DBTemplate/LibTemplate/GEOENGINEERS8/GDT/GEI8_GEOTECH_STANDARD

Sheet 1 of 2



Project Number: 0402-030-00

Figure A-4 Sheet 2 of 2

ATTACHMENT 3

Results of Geotechnical Laboratory Testing (by others)

0402-030-00 SAS:SAS:tt 090811

