## MEMORANDUM

| To: $\quad$ CSW \| ST2 |  |
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|  | CSW/Stube-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc. |

January 10, 2020 Job No. 2019-147-GEO

Attn: Mr. Robert Stevens, P.E.<br>From: Y. David Wang Ph.D., P.E.<br>Subject: Geotechnical Design Recommendations<br>Mirada Road Pedestrian Bridge Replacement Project<br>San Mateo County, California

## INTRODUCTION

The existing Mirada Road pedestrian bridge was installed by the County in 2004. The existing bridge is a single span structure supported on 24-inch diameter Cast-In-Drilled-Hole (CIDH) piles with a service load of 30 Tons per pile. Due to marine environment, the bridge has severe corrosion issue. The County performed study and the preferred approach is to replace the existing bridge with a clear span prefabricated aluminum truss bridge. Based on Parikh's previous involvement (the original bridge design in 2004 and evaluation performed in early 2018), it is our understanding that the existing 24 -inch diameter CIDH piles could be reused for foundation support.

The structural designer is to design the current project to conform to current Caltrans seismic design criteria and AASHTO LRFD specifications. In addition to the pedestrian bridge, the coastal bluff of the general area is also of design considerations. The bridge replacement must address the threat of coastal erosion and the impact of Sea-Level Rise. A 2015 study completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers indicated that the bluff north of the Mirada Road revetment retreated at a rate of 1.64 feet per year from 1993 to 2012. The erosion occurring north and south of the existing bridge is threatening collapse of the original/old concrete arch structure at site.

The current project requires a comprehensive design that addresses a long-term solution which protects coastal access. For the bluff stabilization, we understand the current design concept of bluff stabilization is to use a shotcrete type tieback wall with rock riprap and engineering fabric at bottom to provide confinement of the material and to account for future Sea-Level Rise.

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## SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS

Parikh performed the original investigation for bridge and prepared a report in July 2001. In addition, WRECO performed borings and investigation on Mirada Road for retaining wall evaluation in May 2017. The project utilizes the existing soil boring data (Parikh 2001 and WRECO 2017) for the current design. The Log of Test Boring sheet is attached with the memo.

Based on the soil boring data, the subsoils consist of about 20 to 25 feet of interbedded very stiff sandy lean clay and medium dense clayey to poorly grade sand. Below that, the borings encountered generally medium dense to dense silty sand/clayey sand through Elev. -25 feet ( $\sim 50$ feet depth below existing Mirada Road).

Groundwater was encountered at about 25 feet and 31 feet depth below Mirada Road during Parikh's 2001 investigation. Groundwater levels may change with passage of time due to groundwater/tidal fluctuations from season to season, surface run-off, weather condition, and other factors which may not be present at the time of the investigation.

## SEISMIC DESIGN CRITERIA

The recommended response spectrum was determined based on the Caltrans ARS Online tool (Ver. 2.3.09, 2012). The development of the design ARS curve is based on several input parameters, including site location (longitude/latitude), average shear wave velocity for the top 30 m (100 feet) (VS3Om), and other site parameters, such as fault characteristics, and site-tofault distances. The design methods incorporate both deterministic and probabilistic seismic hazards to produce the design response spectrum.

The average shear wave velocity (Vs) for the top 30 m ( 100 feet) at the site was estimated by using established correlations and guidelines provided in Caltrans "Methodology for Developing Design Response Spectrum for Use in Seismic Design Recommendation," dated November 2012. The site condition may be classified as Site Class "D" per NEHRP. Based on the subsurface data, we recommend that a Vs value of $290 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$ be used for design.

The site location and the relevant parameters are summarized as follows, and the recommended ARS Design Curve is attached with the memo. The soil strength and calculation of the shear wave velocity $\left(\mathrm{V}_{30 \mathrm{~m}}\right)$ are attached.

1. Site Location: $37.49340 \mathrm{~N} / 122.45980^{\circ} \mathrm{W}$
2. Recommended $\mathrm{V}_{30 \mathrm{~m}}$ for design $=290 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{sec}$ (Site Class D per NEHRP)
3. The recommended ARS curve is the envelope of the Deterministic and Probabilistic approaches per Caltrans ARS Online. For the site, the curve is governed by the Probabilistic approach.

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4. To account for Near Fault effect, a factor of 1.2 is applied to Sa for structural periods over 1 second per Caltrans design guidelines.
5. Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) $=0.712 \mathrm{~g}$

## LIQUEFACTION POTENTIAL

Liquefaction is a phenomenon in which saturated cohesionless soils are subject to a temporary but essentially total loss of shear strength under reversing cyclic shear stresses associated with earthquake shaking. Submerged cohesionless sands and silts of low relative density are most susceptible to liquefaction. Clays generally are not susceptible to liquefaction.

Based on the boring data, the underlying sands are generally dense to very dense. The liquefaction potential at the site is considered low.

## LATERAL EARTH PRESSURES FOR TIEBACK WALL DESIGN

It is planned to use tiebacks with Rock Slope Protection (RSP) at the toe for bank stabilization at the site. The existing geology and boring data indicate that the site subsoils consist primarily of medium dense to dense, fine to coarse grained sands with some low plasticity fines. A tieback wall with shotcrete facing is anticipated.

The recommended soil properties for the tieback wall design are: $\phi=34$ deg and $\gamma=125$ pcf. The existing grade near the north pedestrian bridge abutment is at approx. Elev. 31 feet, and the Mirada Road grade along the wall layout line appears to be between Elev. 26 and 30 feet.

Apparent Lateral Earth Pressure. The determination of lateral earth pressure for tieback wall design should follow AASHTO LRFD Spec with California Amendments (6th ed., 2012), Section 3.11.5.7. Refer to the section for the calculation of Pa , and the apparent earth pressure is in trapezoidal distribution as shown in Fig. 3.11.5.7.1-1 (see below). The anticipated wall height may be on the order of 20 to 25 feet. RSP is planned at the toe for wave protection. Additional surcharge such as traffic load should also be included for wall design. We anticipate that multiple levels of tiebacks will be used, and Figure 3.11.5.7.1-1 (b) is relevant for design. For level backfill case, $K a=\tan (45-\phi / 2)^{\wedge} 2=0.28, \gamma=125 \mathrm{pcf}$.

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Figure 3.11.5.7.1-1—Apparent Earth Pressure Distributions for Anchored Walls Constructed from the Top Down in Cohesionless Soils

Seismic Lateral Earth Pressure. The determination of seismic lateral earth pressure for tieback wall design should follow AASHTO LRFD Spec with California Amendments, Section 11, Appendix A11. The PGA at the site is 0.712 g per Caltrans ARS online (V. 2.3.09). Per Section A11.3.2, a $50 \%$ reduction may be applied when defining Kh if 1 to 2 inches of ground deformation is permitted during the design seismic event. Therefore, a Kh value of 0.36 g is recommended for design.

Per Figure A11.3.2-3, the recommended Kae (total seismic lateral pressure) is 0.5 . We considered $\sim 25$ feet height of the wall and a nominal cohesion of $\sim 100$ psf for the soils. The Kae may be used in Section 3.11.5.7 to determine the total seismic lateral pressure. The distribution of the total seismic lateral pressure takes the same distribution shape as the static trapezoidal shape per NCHRP Report 611.


Figure A11.3.2-3-Seismic Active Earth Pressure Coefficient for $\phi=35$ degrees ( $c=$ soil cohesion, $\gamma=$ soil unit weight, and $H=$ retaining wall height)

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Presumptive Ultimate Unit Bond Stress. Based on the boring data, it is anticipated that the anchor bond zone would be in the native sandy soil material. It should be noted that changes in the subsurface conditions during construction may be expected. Caltrans standard performance specifications for anchor systems should be utilized for attaining the required design capacity. The contractor should develop their design and construction criteria.

The bond stress for design of anchor bond length depends on factors such as installation technique, grouting procedures, diameter of the holes, etc. Per Section 11.9.4.2 of the AASHTO LRFD, for preliminary cost estimate, the estimated presumptive ultimate unit bond stress is on the order of 4.5 ksf . It is assumed that pressure-grouted anchors will be used. Note that anchor is a design-build system, and the contractor should determine the bond length, drilling and grouting method, etc.

The anchors should be constructed and tested as per Caltrans standard performance specifications for anchor systems. All anchors should be either performance tested, or proof tested. We recommend that at least $5 \%$ of the total number of anchors be performance tested. The remaining anchors should be proof tested. If the design capacity is not achieved during the initial test program, post-grouting technique, large diameter holes, etc. may be considered for the anchor installation. Per Section 11.5.6 of the California Amendments, the Resistance Factor is 1.0 for pullout resistance of anchors where proof tests are conducted.

Because of the variability in the soil conditions and the limitations in the exploration program, it is recommended that several cost control measures be implemented in the specifications for the anchor system. The contractor should be advised to verify the field conditions and verify the capacity through his own efforts. It would be advisable for the contractor to have capability to perform post-grouting for the anchor installation. He should also verify the drilling conditions into the existing material (such as by horizontal drilling). This is to see if the operation may require special drilling tools and equipment.

Unbonded Length, Inclination Angle \& Drainage. The minimum distance between the beginning of the grout/bond zone and the active zone should be 5 feet or $\mathrm{H} / 5$, whichever is greater (See the excerpted Figure 11.9.1-1 below from AASHTO LRFD specs). For the site, the active zone is at an angle of 62 degrees $(=45+\phi / 2$ ) from horizontal. A minimum unbonded length of 15 feet is recommended. In addition, for the first level of tiebacks, the overburden depth should be minimum 10 feet. Typically, an inclination of 10 to 15 degrees is planned for anchor installation. Drainage, such as using geocomposite drain, should be provided for the wall.

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Figure 11.9.1-1 Anchored Wall Nomenclature and Anchor Embedment Guidelines.

## ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR TIEBACK WALL

Depending on the wall layout line and existing terrain, the very upper part maybe "in the air" and may require fill to build up. Some special detail may be needed for such case.

The designer needs to determine the "wall bottom elevation" and construction sequence. Based on the preliminary information, it is expected that RSP with fabric is planned at the toe for wave protection. From geotechnical standpoint, we should avoid the situation of doing the wall first, over-excavating later for the RSP and end up losing material behind/underneath the wall.

The construction sequence should be strategized so that the tieback wall will not be undermined by construction.

## BRIDGE FOUNDATION DESIGN

It is our understanding that the existing CIDH piles will remain and will be re-used for foundation support. The superstructure will be replaced, and the required demand does not exceed the existing pile capacity. Due to update of design standards and seismic design criteria, the structural engineer needs to re-evaluate the lateral design. For analyses using LPILE program, the geotechnical parameters are provided below:

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## Geotechnical Parameters for LPILE Analysis

North Abutment (Boring B-2, Parikh 2001)

| Approx. <br> Depth (ft.) | Generalized Soil Profile | LPILE <br> Soil Type | Soil <br> Strength | Effect. Unit <br> Wt. (pcf) |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 to 4 | Clayey Sand, medium dense | Sand (Reese) | $\phi=340$ | 125 |
| 4 to 9 | Lean Clay, stiff | Stiff Clay w/o free water | $\mathrm{C}=1600$ psf | 125 |
| 9 to 25 | Clayey Sand \& Silty Sand, <br> medium dense to dense | Sand (Reese) | $\phi=380$ | 125 |
| 25 to 30 | Clayey Sand, dense | Sand (Reese) | $\phi=380$ | 63 |

South Abutment (Boring B-1, Parikh 2001)

| Approx. <br> Depth (ft.) | Generalized Soil Profile | LPILE <br> Soil Type | Soil <br> Strength | Effect. Unit <br> Wt. (pcf) |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 to 4 | Clayey Sand, medium dense | Sand (Reese) | $\phi=340$ | 125 |
| 4 to 14 | Lean Clay, stiff | Stiff Clay w/o free water | $\mathrm{C}=2000$ psf | 125 |
| 14 to 25 | Clayey Sand \& Silty Sand, <br> medium dense to dense | Sand (Reese) | $\phi=38 \circ$ | 125 |
| 25 to 30 | Clayey Sand, dense | Sand (Reese) | $\phi=380$ | 63 |

Use default values for $\varepsilon_{50 \text { and }} \mathrm{k}$ in LPILE program
Depth " 0 " is at existing grade of Mirada Road

At each abutment, the two piles are at about 15 feet apart. There is no group reduction, and $p$ multiplier $=1.0$.

Design Consideration at North Abutment near the Wall/Slope. It is our understanding that the outermost pile on the north abutment is in close proximity to the planned wall/slope. At the location, the design will have a tieback wall to go around the existing slope. The evaluation needs collaboration between the bridge designer, the wall designer, and the geotechnical engineer for wall/tieback design near this pile.

When the pile is under lateral load "going away" from the bluff (seismic condition), additional load will be imposed on the "protective" tieback wall. The determination of tieback demand needs to consider the additional pile reaction. When the actual wall layout is finalized (by Moffatt Nichol), Parikh will need to check the distance between the pile and the wall and obtain LPILE analyses (by Cornerstone) to verify the pile reaction along the pile length. The pile reaction becomes loading/demand on the tieback wall. It is likely that two vertical rows of the tiebacks will see additional loads.

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For verification of the abutment design, the following parameters are recommended: Active Earth Pressure $=36$ pcf, and At-Rest Earth Pressure $=55$ pcf; drainage should be provided. For ultimate passive under seismic condition, please design the abutments per the bilinear model as shown in Section 6.3.1 of Caltrans latest Seismic Design Criteria (SDC version 2.0, April 2019).

Please be advised that we are performing a professional service and that our conclusions are professional opinions only. All work done and all recommendations made are in accordance with generally accepted geotechnical engineering principles and practices. No warranty expressed or implied, of merchantability or fitness, is made or intended in connection with our work.

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Log of Test Borings
- ARS Design Curves
- Soil Strength \& Vs ${ }_{30 m}$ Calculation


## Log of Test Borings





ARS Design Curves

## RECOMMENDED ACCELERATION RESPONSE SPECTRUM



| Site Information | Recommended Response Spectrum |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Latitude: 37.4934 <br> Longitude -122.4598 | Period (sec) | Caltrans Online Probabilistic Spectral Acceleration (g) | Adjusted for Near Fault Effect | Adjusted For Basin Effect | Final Adjusted Spectral Acceleration (g) |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {S30 }}(\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{s})=\quad 290$ | 0.0 | 0.712 | 1 | 1 | 0.712 |
| $\mathrm{Z}_{1.0}(\mathrm{~m})=\quad \mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | 0.1 | 1.208 | 1 | 1 | 1.208 |
| $\mathrm{Z}_{2.5}(\mathrm{~km})=\quad \mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | 0.2 | 1.481 | 1 | 1 | 1.481 |
| Near Fault Factor, | 0.3 | 1.538 | 1 | 1 | 1.538 |
| Derived from Caltrans ARS. Dist | 0.5 | 1.438 | 1 | 1 | 1.438 |
| $(\mathrm{km})=$ | 1.0 | 1.058 | 1.2 | 1 | 1.270 |
|  | 2.0 | 0.63 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.756 |
| Governing Curve: | 3.0 | 0.425 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.510 |
| Caltrans Online Probabilistic ARS | 4.0 | 0.309 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.371 |
|  | 5.0 | 0.25 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.300 |

## Source:

1. Caltrans ARS Online tool (V.2.3.09, http://dap3.dot.ca.gov/ARS_Online/)
2. Caltrans Methodology for Developing Design Response Spectrum for Use in Seismic Design Recommendations, November 2012

| MIRADA ROAD PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE <br> HALF MOON BAY, CALIFORNIA |  |
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| Project No.: 2019-147-GEO | Plate No.: IV-A |



## Source:

1. Caltrans ARS Online tool (V.2.3.09, http://dap3.dot.ca.gov/ARS_Online/)
2. Caltrans Methodology for Developing Design Response Spectrum for Use in Seismic Design Recommendations, November 2012

## Soil Strength \& $\mathbf{V}_{\text {s30m }}$ Calculation





