

SECTION 02226

EXCAVATION AND BACKFILL FOR STRUCTURES

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01 SECTION INCLUDES

- A. Excavation, backfilling, and compaction of backfill for structures.

1.02 UNIT PRICES

- A. No payment will be made for structural excavation and backfill under this Section. Include payment in unit price or lump sum for applicable bid item.

1.03 DEFINITIONS

- A. Unsuitable Material: Unsuitable soil materials are the following:
 - 1. Materials that are classified as ML, CL-ML, MH, PT, OH and OL according to ASTM D 2487.
 - 2. Materials that cannot be compacted to the required density due to gradation, plasticity, or moisture content.
 - 3. Materials that contain large clods, aggregates, stones greater than 4 inches in any dimension, debris, vegetation, waste or any other deleterious materials.
 - 4. Materials that are contaminated with hydrocarbons or other chemical contaminants.
- B. Suitable Material: Suitable soil materials are those meeting specification requirements. Unsuitable soils meeting specification requirements for suitable soils after treatment with lime or cement shall be considered suitable, unless otherwise indicated.
- C. Select Material: Material as defined in Section 02229 - Utility Backfill Materials.
- D. Backfill: Select material meeting specified quality requirements, placed and compacted under controlled conditions around structures.
- E. Foundation Backfill Materials: Natural soil or manufactured aggregate meeting Class I requirements and geotextile filter fabrics, as required, to control drainage and material separation. Foundation backfill material is placed and compacted as backfill where needed to provide stable support for the structure foundation base. Foundation backfill materials may include concrete fill and seal slabs.

- F. Foundation Base: For foundation base material, use crushed aggregate with filter fabric, as required, cement stabilized sand, or concrete seal slab. The foundation base provides a smooth, level working surface for the construction of the concrete foundation.
- G. Foundation Subgrade: Foundation subgrade is the surface of the natural soil which has been excavated and prepared to support the foundation base or foundation backfill, where needed.
- H. Ground Water Control Systems: Installations external to the excavation such as well points, eductors, or deep wells. Ground water control includes dewatering to lower the ground water, intercepting seepage which would otherwise emerge from the side or bottom of the excavation, and depressurization to prevent failure or heaving of the excavation bottom. Refer to Section 01563 - Control of Ground Water and Surface Water.
- I. Surface Water Control: Diversion and drainage of surface water runoff and rain water away from the excavation. Remove rain water and surface water which accidentally enters the excavation as a part of excavation drainage.
- J. Excavation Drainage: Removal of surface and seepage water in the excavation by sump pumping and using French drains surrounding the foundation to intercept the water.
- K. Over-Excavation and Backfill: Excavation of subgrade soils with unsatisfactory bearing capacity or composed of otherwise unsuitable materials below the foundation as shown on Drawings, and backfilled with foundation backfill material.
- L. Shoring System: A structure that supports the sides of an excavation to maintain stable soil conditions and prevent cave-ins.

1.04 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submittals shall conform to requirements of all sections and provisions of these regulations.
- B. Submit a work plan for excavation and backfill for each structure with complete written description which identifies details of the proposed method of construction and the sequence of operations for construction relative to excavation and backfill activities. The descriptions, with supporting illustrations, shall be sufficiently detailed to demonstrate to the Owner's Representative that the procedures meet the requirements of the Specifications and Drawings.
- C. Submit excavation safety system plan.

1. The excavation safety system plan shall be in accordance with applicable OSHA requirements for all excavations.
 2. The excavation safety system plan shall be in accordance with the requirements of Section 01526 - Trench Safety System, for all excavations that fall under State and Federal trench safety laws.
- D. Submit a ground and surface water control plan in accordance with requirements in this Section and Section 01563 - Control of Ground Water and Surface Water.
- E. Submit backfill material sources and product quality information in accordance with requirements of Section 02229 - Utility Backfill Materials.
- F. Submit project record documents under provisions of Section 01720 - Project Record Documents. Record location of utilities, as installed, referenced to survey benchmarks. Include location of utilities encountered or rerouted. Give horizontal dimensions, elevations, inverts and gradients.

1.05 TESTS

- A. Testing and analysis of backfill materials for soil classification and compaction during construction will be performed by an independent laboratory provided by the Owner in accordance with requirements of Section 01410 - Testing Laboratory Services and as specified in this Section.
- B. Contractor shall perform embedment and backfill material source qualification testing in accordance with requirements of Section 02229- Utility Backfill Materials.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.01 EQUIPMENT

- A. Perform excavation with equipment suitable for achieving the requirements of this Specification.
- B. Use equipment which will produce the degree of compaction specified. Backfill within 3 feet of walls shall be compacted with hand-operated equipment. Do not use equipment weighing more than 10,000 pounds closer to walls than a horizontal distance equal to the depth of the fill at that time. Use hand operated power compaction equipment where use of heavier equipment is impractical or restricted due to weight limitations.

2.02 MATERIAL CLASSIFICATIONS

- A. Backfill materials shall conform to the classifications and product descriptions of Section 02229 - Utility Backfill Materials. The classification or product description for backfill applications shall be as shown on the Drawings and as specified.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.01 PREPARATION

- A. Conduct an inspection to determine condition of existing structures and other permanent installations.
- B. Set up necessary street detours and barricades in preparation for excavation if construction will affect traffic. Conform to requirements of Section 01570 - Traffic Control and Regulation. Maintain barricades and warning devices at all times for streets and intersections where work is in progress, or where affected by the Work, and is considered hazardous to traffic movements.
- C. Perform work in accordance with OSHA standards. Employ an excavation safety system as specified in Section 01526 - Trench Safety Systems for excavations over 5 feet deep.
- D. Remove old pavements and structures, including sidewalks and driveways, in accordance with requirements of Section 02076 - Removing Existing Pavements and Structures.
- E. Install and operate necessary dewatering and surface water control measures in accordance with requirements of Section 01563 - Control of Ground Water and Surface Water.

3.02 PROTECTION

- A. Protect trees, shrubs, lawns, existing structures, and other permanent objects outside of grading limits and within the grading limits as designated on the Drawings, and in accordance with requirements of Section 01535 - Tree and Plant Protection.
- B. Protect and support above-grade and below-grade utilities which are to remain.
- C. Restore damaged permanent facilities to pre-construction conditions unless replacement or abandonment of facilities is indicated on the Drawings.
- D. Prevent erosion of excavations and backfill. Do not allow water to pond in excavations.
- E. Maintain excavation and backfill areas until start of subsequent work. Repair and recompact slides, washouts, settlements, or areas with loss of density at no additional cost to the Owner.

3.03 EXCAVATION

- A. Perform excavation work so that the underground structure can be installed to depths and alignments shown on Drawings. Use caution during excavation work to avoid

- disturbing surrounding ground and existing facilities and improvements. Keep excavation to the absolute minimum necessary. No additional payment will be made for excess excavation not authorized by Owner's Representative.
- B. Upon discovery of unknown utilities, badly deteriorated utilities not designated for removal, or concealed conditions, discontinue work. Notify Owner's Representative and obtain instructions before proceeding in such areas.
 - C. Immediately notify the agency or company owning any line which is damaged, broken or disturbed. Obtain approval from Owner's Representative and agency for any repairs or relocations, either temporary or permanent.
 - D. Avoid settlement of surrounding soil due to equipment operations, excavation procedures, vibration, dewatering, or other construction methods.
 - E. Provide surface drainage during construction to protect work and to avoid nuisance to adjoining property. Where required, provide proper dewatering and piezometric pressure control during construction.
 - F. Conduct hauling operations so that trucks and other vehicles do not violate the City's Stormwater Protection Ordinance. Verify that truck beds are sufficiently tight and loaded in such a manner that material will not spill onto streets. Promptly clear away any dirt, mud, or other materials that spill onto streets or are deposited onto streets by vehicle tires.
 - G. Maintain permanent benchmarks, monumentation, and other reference points. Unless otherwise directed, replace those which are damaged or destroyed by the Work.
 - H. Provide sheeting, shoring, and bracing where required to safely complete the Work, to prevent excavation from extending beyond limits indicated on Drawings, and to protect the Work and adjacent structures or improvements. Sheeting, shoring, and bracing used to protect workmen and the public shall conform to requirements of Section 01526 - Trench Safety Systems.
 - I. Prevent voids from forming outside of sheeting. Immediately fill voids with grout, concrete fill, cement stabilized sand, or other material approved by Owner's Representative.
 - J. After completion of the structure, remove sheeting, shoring, and bracing unless Owner's Representative has approved in writing that such temporary structures may remain. Remove sheeting, shoring and bracing in such a manner as to maintain safety during backfilling operations and to prevent damage to the Work and adjacent structures or improvements.
 - K. Immediately fill and compact voids left or caused by removal of sheeting with cement stabilized sand or material approved by Owner's Representative.

3.04 HANDLING EXCAVATED MATERIALS

- A. Classify excavated materials. Place material which is suitable for use as backfill in orderly piles at a sufficient distance from excavation to prevent slides or cave-ins.
- B. Provide additional backfill material in accordance with requirements of Section 02229 - Utility Backfill Materials, if adequate quantities of suitable material are not available from excavation and trenching operations at the site.

3.05 DEWATERING

- A. Provide ground water control per Section 01563 - Control of Ground Water and Surface Water.
- B. Maintain the ground water surface a minimum of two feet below the bottom of the foundation base.
- C. Maintain ground water control as directed by Section 01563 - Control of Ground Water and Surface Water and until the structure is sufficiently complete to provide the required weight to resist hydrostatic uplift with a minimum safety factor of 1.2.

3.06 FOUNDATION EXCAVATION

- A. Notify Owner's Representative at least 48 hours prior to planned completion of foundation excavations. Do not place the foundation base until the excavation is accepted by the Owner's Representative.
- B. Excavate to elevations shown on Drawings, as needed to provide space for the foundation base, forming a level undisturbed surface, free of mud or soft material. Remove pockets of soft or otherwise unstable soils and replace with foundation backfill material or a material as directed by the Owner's Representative. Prior to placing material over it, recompact the subgrade, scarifying, as needed, to 95 percent of the maximum Standard Proctor Density according to ASTM D 698. If the specified level of compaction cannot be achieved, moisture condition the subgrade and recompact until 95 percent is achieved, over-excavate to provide a minimum layer of 24 inches of foundation backfill material, or other means acceptable to the Owner's Representative.
- C. Fill unauthorized excessive excavation with foundation backfill material or other material as directed by the Owner's Representative.
- D. Protect open excavations from rainfall, runoff, freezing groundwater, or excessive drying so as to maintain foundation subgrade in a satisfactory, undisturbed condition. Keep excavations free of standing water and completely free of water during concrete placement.

- E. Soils which become unsuitable due to inadequate dewatering or other causes, after initial excavation to the required subgrade, shall be removed and replaced with foundation backfill material, as directed by Owner's Representative, at no additional cost to the Owner.
- F. Place foundation base, or foundation backfill material, where needed, over the subgrade on same day that excavation is completed to final grade. Where base of excavations are left open for longer periods, protect them with a seal slab or cement-stabilized sand.
- G. All crushed aggregate, and other free draining Class I materials, shall have a geotextile filter fabric separating it from native soils or select material backfill. The fabric shall overlap a minimum of 12 inches beyond where another material stops contact with the soil.
- H. Crushed aggregate, and other Class I materials, shall be placed in uniform layers of 8-inch maximum thickness. Compaction shall be by means of at least two passes of a vibratory compactor.

3.07 FOUNDATION BASE

- A. After the subgrade is properly prepared, including the placement of foundation backfill where needed, the foundation base shall be placed. The foundation base shall consist of a 12-inch layer of crushed aggregate or cement stabilized sand. Alternately, a 4-inch minimum seal slab may be placed. The foundation base shall extend a minimum of 12 inches beyond the edge of the structure foundation. Refer to the project plans and comply with actual design requirement when more stringent than stated herein.
- B. Where the foundation base and foundation backfill are of the same material, both can be placed in one operation.

3.08 BACKFILL

- A. Complete backfill to surface of natural ground or to lines and grades shown on Drawings. Use existing material that qualifies as select material, unless indicated otherwise. Deposit backfill in uniform layers and compact each layer as specified.
- B. Do not place backfill against concrete walls or similar structures until laboratory test breaks indicate that the concrete has reached a minimum of 85 percent of the specified compressive strength. Where walls are supported by slabs or intermediate walls, do not begin backfill operations until the slab or intermediate walls have been placed and concrete has attained sufficient strength.
- C. Remove concrete forms before starting backfill and remove shoring and bracing as work progresses.

- D. Maintain fill material at no less than 2 percent below nor more than 2 percent above optimum moisture content. Place fill material in uniform 8-inch maximum loose layers. Compaction of fill shall be to at least 95 percent of the maximum Standard Proctor Density according to ASTM D 698 under paved areas. Compact to at least 90 percent around structures below unpaved areas.
- E. Where backfill is placed against a sloped excavation surface, run compaction equipment across the boundary of the cut slope and backfill to form a compacted slope surface for placement of the next layer of backfill.
- F. Place backfill using cement-stabilized sand in accordance with Section 02252 - Cement Stabilized Sand.

3.09 FIELD QUALITY CONTROL

- A. Testing will be performed under provisions of Section 01410 - Testing Laboratory Services.
- B. Tests will be performed initially on minimum of three different samples of each material type for plasticity characteristics, in accordance with ASTM D 4318, and for gradation characteristics, in accordance with Tex-101-E and Tex-110-E. Additional classification tests will be performed whenever there is a noticeable change in material gradation or plasticity.
- C. In-place density tests of compacted subgrade and backfill will be performed according to ASTM D 1556, or ASTM D 2922 and ASTM D 3017, and at the following frequencies and conditions:
 - 1. A minimum of one test for every 100 cubic yards of compacted backfill material.
 - 2. A minimum three density tests for each full work shift.
 - 3. Density tests will be performed in all placement areas.
 - 4. The number of tests will be increased if inspection determines that soil types or moisture contents are not uniform or if compacting effort is variable and not considered sufficient to attain uniform density.
- D. At least three tests for moisture-density relationships will be initially performed for each type of backfill material in accordance with ASTM D 698. Additional moisture-density relationship tests will be performed whenever there is a noticeable change in material gradation or plasticity.
- E. If tests indicate work does not meet specified compaction requirements, recondition, recompact, and retest at Contractor's expense.

3.10 DISPOSAL OF EXCESS MATERIAL

- A. Dispose of excess materials in accordance with requirements of Section 01564 - Waste Material Disposal.

END OF SECTION