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LAYLA R. D'EMILIA COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

BOARD OF BUILDING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

Geotechnical Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2021
The Division of Professional Licensure Office
1000 Washington Street - Boston, MA 02118

This was a virtual Microsoft Teams meeting.

Roll Call, by GAC Chair:

Chris Erikson, Chair	⊠ present ∟ absent	Martin Rodick	□ present □ absent
Scott DiFiore	present absent	Jake McManus	present absent
John Roma	present absent	James Christensen	present absent
Michael Oakland	present absent	William Solberg	present absent
Damian Siebert	present absent	Rob Anderson	present absent

General notes on format of these minutes

- These minutes represent general points discussed during the meeting. The minutes are **not** intended to be a verbatim account of discussions.
- Topics as numbered may\may not be in the same order as they appear on the meeting agenda.
- The meeting agenda is listed as **EXHIBIT A**; others are listed sequentially as addresses during the meeting.

1. Review minutes for the GAC May 12, 2021 meeting (EXHIBIT B).

On a **MOTION** by James Christensen, seconded by Damian Siebert, it was unanimously agreed, by **Roll Call Vote**, to approve the minutes with the following revisions to page 2, item 3, paragraph 2 – delete the last 2 sentences.

2. Discuss proposed amendments and new content of 2021 IBC, Chapter 18, for inclusion in the Tenth Edition of the Massachusetts Building Code (780 CMR).

Section 1810.3.3.1 John Roma provided an update about the 2.5 minimum safety factor identified as a Massachusetts amendment to Section 1810.3.3.1 (*excerpted below*), reading from a memo supporting the figure. However, some have concerns that the figure is too conservative.

The allowable axial load on a deep foundation element shall be determined in accordance with Sections 1810.3.3.1.1 through 1810.3.3.1.9 11. Where the allowable load capacity is not determined by using one of the formulas or analysis methods provided in sections 1810.3.3.1.1 through 1810.3.3.1.11, or the presumptive load-bearing values in section 1806, the allowable load capacity shall be verified by load tests. Dynamic load testing of instrumented driven piles performed in accordance with ASTM D4945 may be used in lieu of static load testing, where the testing program consists of a minimum of three

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instrumented piles tested to a minimum factor of safety of 2.5 using an analysis procedure that matches the force and velocity traces measured at the top of the pile. Load testing may be waived by the building official based upon submittal of substantiating data prepared by a registered design professional which include load test data or performance records for the proposed deep foundation elements under similar soil and loading conditions.

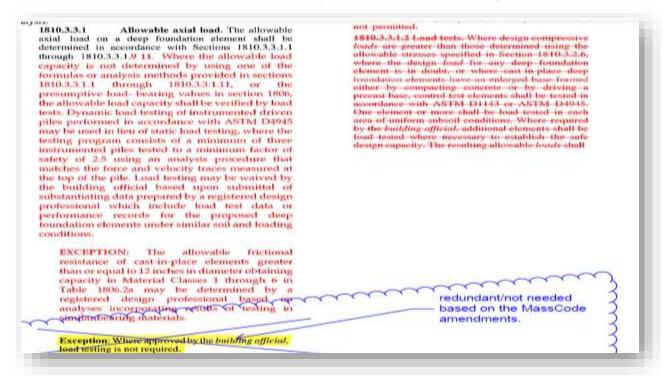
Following discussion, all agreed that the matter warrants further review. John Roma will contact Les Chernauskas from Geoscience Testing Laboratory (GTL) to garner input for further consideration at the next meeting.

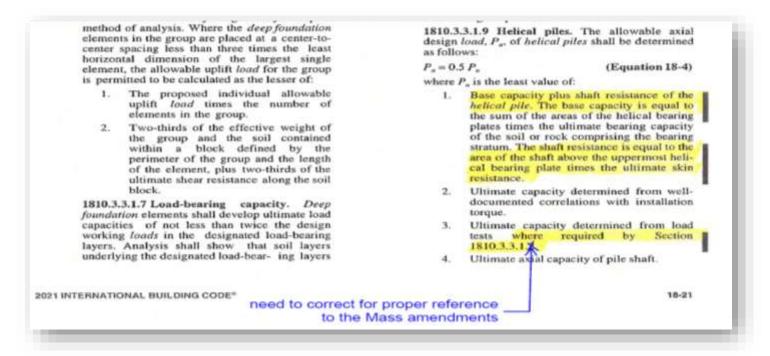
3. Continued Report on Assignment Number 2 from 2/10/2021 Meeting & Follow-up Meeting(s). As indicated during the March meeting, "Following lengthy discussion (relating to liquefaction susceptibility figures), James suggested that the further study of the matter is warranted and suggested convening an interim (subgroup) meeting prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 14th dedicated to the topic".

James Christensen indicated that, in order to be used effectively, PGA values should be reviewed by members of the BBRS Structural Advisory Committee (SAC). Following discussion, it was agreed that Scott DiFiore can forward a request for assistance to SAC Chair, Dominic Kelly.

Following discussion, Chairman Erikson thanked James in particular, and all involved, for their efforts and detailed analysis of the matter. Discussions will continue next meeting.

- 4. Section Review: 1810 Deep Foundations.
 - 1810.3.3 Determination of allowable loads. Following discussion, on a MOTION by Damian Siebert, seconded by Chris Erikson, it was unanimously agreed, by Roll Call Vote, to approve the Section 1810.3.3 as presented in the January, 2021 draft with changes referenced below.





- Section 1810.3.4 Subsiding soils or strata. Following discussion, on a MOTION by Chris Erikson, seconded by Martin Rodick, it was unanimously agreed, by Roll Call Vote, to approve the Section 1810.3.4 as presented in the January, 2021 draft.
- Section 1810.3.5 Dimensions of deep foundation elements. Following discussion, on a MOTION by Damian Siebert, seconded by Martin Rodick, it was unanimously agreed, by Roll Call Vote, to approve the Section 1810.3.5 as presented in the January, 2021 draft.
- Section 1810.3.6 Splices. Following discussion, on a MOTION by Chris Erikson, seconded by Damian Siebert, it was unanimously agreed, by Roll Call Vote, to approve the Section 1810.3.6 as presented in the January, 2021 draft.
- Section 1810.3.7 Top of element detailing at cutoffs. Following discussion, on a MOTION by Chris Erikson, seconded by Damian Siebert, it was unanimously agreed, by Roll Call Vote, to approve the Section 1810.3.7 as presented in the January, 2021 draft.
- 5. Discuss: Matters not reasonably anticipated 2 business days in advance of meeting. None.
- 6. Approve: Adjourning the meeting.

On a **MOTION** by Chris Erikson seconded by Martin Rodick, **by Roll Call Vote**, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting @ approximately 11:59 pm.

Exhibits.

- A. Meeting Agenda
- B. May 12, 2021 GAC Draft Meeting Minutes.
- C. International Building Code (IBC), Chapter 18 January Draft.