



**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**MIKE KENNEALY**  
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Division of Professional Licensure**  
**Office of Public Safety and Inspections**  
1000 Washington Street • Boston • Massachusetts • 02118

**EDWARD A. PALLESCHI**  
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS  
REGULATION

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

**BOARD OF BUILDING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS**

**Geotechnical Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting Minutes**

July 14, 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  
Scott DiFiore  
John Roma  
Michael Oakland  
Damian Siebert

☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ present ☐ absent  
☐ present ☒ absent

Martin Rodick  
Jake McManus  
James Christensen  
William Solberg  
Rob Anderson

☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ present ☐ absent  
☒ 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.*

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1. **Review minutes for the GAC June 9, 2021 meeting (EXHIBIT B).**

On a **MOTION** by Chris Erikson, seconded by James Christensen, it was unanimously agreed, by **Roll Call Vote**, to approve the minutes with the following **revision** to page 1, item 2, paragraph 2 – change James Christensen to **John Roma**.

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).**

James Christensen reminded that, in order to be used effectively, PGA values should be reviewed by members of the BBRs Structural Advisory Committee (SAC). Mike Oakland mentioned that he spoke to several members of the SAC who indicated that the committee is quite busy and may not have time to entertain this issue. Scott DiFiore said he would speak to SAC Chair, Dominic Kelly. James suggested that, if the SAC is not able to review the matter, guidance can be offered in the code as to how to look up the PGA.

3. **Section Review:**

- **1810.3.9.6 – Socketed drilled shafts.**



Members continued to debate how best to address slurry allowances. James Christensen noted that IBC Section 1810.4.1.2 adds reference to slurry that may help clarify the issue.

Following lengthy discussion, on a **MOTION** by Chris Erikson, seconded by Mike Oakland, by **Roll Call Vote**, it was agreed to by majority to approve the **Section 1810.3.9.6** as **modified** below. James Christensen abstained.

Socketed *drilled shafts* shall have a permanent pipe or tube casing that extends down to bedrock and an uncased socket drilled into the bedrock, both filled with concrete. **Alternatively, slurry may be used under appropriate conditions per Section 1810.4.1.2.** Socketed *drilled shafts* shall have reinforcement or a structural steel core for the length as indicated by an *approved* method of analysis.

The depth of the rock socket shall be sufficient to develop the full load-bearing capacity of the element with a minimum safety factor of two, but the depth shall be not less than the outside diameter of the **pipe or tube casing rock socket**. The design of the rock socket is permitted to be predicated on the sum of the allowable load-bearing pressure on the bottom of the socket plus bond along the sides of the socket.

Where a structural steel core is used, the gross cross-sectional area of the core shall not exceed 25 percent of the gross area of the *drilled shaft*.

- **Section 1810.3.10 – Micropiles.** Following discussion, on a **MOTION** by Chris Erikson, seconded by John Roma, it was unanimously agreed, by **Roll Call Vote**, to approve the **Section 1810.3.10** as presented in the January, 2021 draft.
- **Section 1810.3.11, Section 1810.3.12, Section 1810.3.13 – Pile Caps, Grade Beams and Seismic Ties.** Following discussion, it was agreed that Scott DiFiore would review the sections with the SAC.
- **Section 1810.4 – Spacing.** Following discussion, on a **MOTION** by Chris Erikson, seconded by Martin Roddick, it was unanimously agreed, by **Roll Call Vote**, to approve the **Section 1810.3.14** as **modified** below.

#### **1810.4.9 Socketed drilled shafts.**

The rock socket and pipe or tube casing of socketed *drilled shafts* shall be thoroughly cleaned of foreign materials before filling with concrete. ~~Steel cores shall be bedded in cement grout at the base of the rock socket.~~

Chairman Erikson asked all committee members to read the safety of factor memo distributed by John Roma and be ready to discuss at the next meeting. James Christensen mentioned that he has concerns over interpretation of data.

4. **Discuss:**      **Matters not reasonably anticipated 2 business days in advance of meeting.**  
None.

5. **Approve:**      **Adjourning the meeting.**

On a **MOTION** by Chris Erikson seconded by James Christensen, by **Roll Call Vote**, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting @ approximately 12:02 pm.

## Exhibits.

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- A. Meeting Agenda
- B. June 9, 2021 GAC Draft Meeting Minutes.
- C. International Building Code (IBC), Chapter 18 January Draft (modified as a **WORD** document for clarity).