

Geotechnical Exploration, Inc.

SOIL AND FOUNDATION ENGINEERING ● GROUNDWATER ● ENGINEERING GEOLOGY

03 December 2021

Kimberly Fanelli and Chris Huber 1851 Spindrift Drive La Jolla, CA 92037 Job No. 21-13237

Subject: Response to City of San Diego LDR Geology Proposed Fanelli-Huber Residence 1851 Spindrift Drive La Jolla, California

City Project No. 693529, Cycle 1 dated August 20, 2021

Dear Ms. Fanelli and Mr. Huber:

In accordance with your request and authorization, *Geotechnical Exploration, Inc. (GEI)* is providing this addendum report to respond to the LDR-Geology review issues dated August 20, 2021 as part of the City of San Diego Review process. This report is written in a format first stating the City Reviewer Comment/Question from the August 20, 2021, review followed by our response. Refer to the Vicinity Map, Figure No. I, for the project location. It is our understanding that the following documents referenced in the memorandum have been reviewed:

- Reference 1: City of San Diego, 2021 Reviewer Issues draft, prepared by LDR-Geology, Cycle 1, Project No. 693529, review completed dated August 20, 2021.
- Reference 2: Geotechnical Exploration, Inc., 2021, Report of Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation, Proposed Fanelli-Huber Residence, 1851 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla, California, dated June 3, 2021.
- Reference 3: Pasco Laret Suiter and Associates, 2021, Topographic Survey Map 1851 Spindrift Drive, dated August 13, 2021.
- Reference 4: California Geological Survey, 2021a, Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation, La Jolla Quadrangle, Earthquake Fault Zones, Official Map released September 23, 2021.

- Reference 5: CGS, 2021b, Fault Evaluation Report (FER) 265: The Rose Canyon Fault in the Point Loma and La Jolla 7.5 Minute Quadrangles, San Diego, California, February 18, 2021.
- Reference 6: Artim and Streiff, 1981, Final Technical Report, Trenching the Rose Canyon Fault Zone, San Diego, California RCF, USGS Contract No. 14-08-0001-19824.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 1</u>: Report of Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation, Proposed Fanelli-Huber Residence, 1851 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla, California, prepared by Geotechnical Exploration, Inc., dated June 3, 2021 (their job no. 21-13127)

GEI Response: No response needed- information only

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 2</u>: Please note, each additional geotechnical document submitted for digital review must be uploaded as an independent PDF using any of the 10 available "Geotechnical..." file names (do not use the "Applicant Responses" file name for any geotechnical document). Geotechnical documents that are uploaded incorrectly or combined with other documents are unacceptable for record documents and cannot be excepted. Please see the Open DSD User Guide for more information (https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/opendsd-user-guide-ptsprojects.pdf).

GEI Response: GEI will work with the project team to upload the project documents as required.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 3</u>: (New Issue) The project's geotechnical consultant must submit an addendum geotechnical report or update letter for the purpose of an environmental review that specifically addresses the proposed development plans and the following:</u>

GEI Response: This letter serves as GEI's addendum report addressing the City Comments. See responses below in the following sections.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 4</u>: (New Issue) If the project's geotechnical consultant is relying on subsurface information from adjacent sites for their site specific fault hazard investigation, the consultant should demonstrate how that information provides stratigraphic and geologic structural continuity across the subject site and how it provides optimum coverage as specified in the City's Guidelines.

<u>GEI Response</u>: As indicated in this addendum report, GEI performed additional subsurface investigation at the subject site to address the geologic structure and faulting. In addition, GEI performed additional research related to faulting in the



subject area. Refer to Figure No. II (revised) for the project Plot Plan and Site-Specific Geologic Map.

The additional research included review of the investigative work performed by Artim and Streiff, 1981 (refer to Reference 6 above). The Artim and Streiff report researched the Rose Canyon fault zone along Spindrift Drive. Spindrift Drive trends northeast-southwest, approximately perpendicular to the Rose Canyon fault zone. The Artim and Streiff report included the drilling of 13 borings spaced along Spindrift Drive, from northeast of Roseland Drive, southwest to near the southern end of Spindrift Drive, for a total distance of about 800 feet. Several of the borings were drilled in front of or near the subject site. As discussed below, five of the closest borings (#9 through #13) were selected for this report. Refer to Figure Nos. IIIa-d for copies of the Artim and Streiff boring logs.

The five borings spanned a distance of about 300 feet. The subject site, which is about 50 feet wide and fronts Spindrift Drive, is located near the central portion of the 300-foot-long section. *This 300-foot distance, along with the on-site investigation and mapping of the coastal bluff northwest of the site, is considered sufficient coverage for geologic structural continuity across the site.* Additional details are presented below.

The intent of the Artim and Streiff borings was to identify the underlying sedimentary bedrock units and look for significant abrupt elevation changes of the contact between the differing geologic units. Of the 13 Artim and Streiff borings, Borings 9 through 13, which are closest to the subject site, were reviewed by GEI to determine the top elevations of the Cretaceous Point Loma Formation. Preparation of cross section A-A' between borings 9 and 13 revealed two main points: (1) the top of the elevation of the underlying Point Loma Formation is uniform and relatively level to gently sloping downward to the northeast between elevations of 53 to 58 feet above MSL; and (2) the elevation of the top of the Point Loma Formation in the Spindrift Drive borings, when projected south to the subject lot, suggested that the depth of the top of the Point Loma Formation would be about 18 feet below the subject site.

It was determined that a typical fault trench would be too deep to reach the top of the Point Loma Formation, which was considered important to assist in determining faulting or lack of faulting. Therefore, it was elected to drill closely spaced borings on the subject property. The rear yard area was selected for the borings as additional research indicated that a concealed fault strand mapped by the State of California (CGS FER report, 2021) is projected through the rear yard portion of the site (refer to Figure No. II, revised). Specifically, GEI drilled three closely spaced small-diameter borings in the rear yard as an alternative to trenching (refer to Figure No. II, revised). Borings B-1 and B-2 were continuously cored with SPTs to depths of about 19 feet. B-3 encountered a pipe at a shallow depth and was completed to a



depth of 13 feet using a hand auger. Soil samples from the borings were collected and transported to the laboratory for additional logging. Refer to Figure Nos. IVa-c for copies of the GEI boring logs.

The results of the drilling indicated that the surface elevation of the underlying Point Loma Formation beneath the site is at a depth of 18 feet and, as anticipated, is very similar to the elevations noted in the Artim and Streiff borings northwest of and adjacent to the site. Cross section A-A' (Figure No. V), specifically in the area of Station Nos. 130 through 180 feet, depicts the Artim and Streiff borings and the GEI borings. GEI Borings B-1 and B-2 are projected 107 feet northwest to the Spindrift Drive cross section. The cross section reveals that the elevations of the underlying Point Loma Formation surface are essentially the same on Spindrift Drive in front of the property and in the rear yard of the home. Figure No. VI presents cross section B-B' across the rear yard, and Figure No. VII presents cross section C-C', drawn perpendicular to A-A' and B-B'.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 5:</u> (New Issue) If the project's geotechnical consultant is relying on subsurface information from adjacent sites for their site specific fault hazard investigation, the consultant must reference the offsite geotechnical reports utilized to support their conclusions regarding the absence of hazardous faults and state that they agree with the fault investigation data and conclusions contained in those report.

GEI Response: As indicated above in Response No. 4, the off-site geologic report based on borings in Spindrift Drive immediately adjacent to the subject site was utilized to support our conclusions along with our onsite borings. Therefore, it is our opinion that no significant active bedrock faults offsetting overlying marine terrace deposits exist on site. As required by the City of San Diego, GEI states that we agree with the data provided in the referenced Artim and Streiff (1981) report, specifically the boring data utilized adjacent to the subject lot. The 1981 report was performed under contract with the U.S. Geological Survey and therefore the information and data presented is considered credible.

In addition, GEI is utilizing geologic mapping of the coastal bluff off-site to the northwest (refer to Reference 2 above, GEI, 2021, Figure No. VIb, reproduced herein as Figure No. VIII), which is parallel to Spindrift Drive in the section next to the subject property. With three sets of data points regarding the surface of the underlying Point Loma Formation located at the mapped bluff, the borings in Spindrift Drive and the on-site borings, we interpret and conclude that the Point Loma Formation is not offset or faulted from a significant strike-slip fault standpoint at the subject lot.



<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 6</u>: (New Issue) If the project's geotechnical consultant is relying on subsurface information from adjacent sites for their site specific fault hazard investigation, the consultant should show all offsite exploratory excavations utilized to support their conclusions regarding the absence of hazardous faults on or adjacent to the subject site on their Plot Plan and Site Specific Geologic Map, Figure No. II.

GEI Response: The attached Figure No. II, Site Plan and Site-Specific Geologic Map, depicts the off-site borings by Artim and Streiff (1981) and the recently drilled on-site borings by GEI. In addition, GEI performed geologic mapping of the coastal bluff off-site to the northeast (refer to Reference 2 above, GEI, 2021, Figure No. VIb, reproduced for this response letter as Figure No. VIII). Results of the borings and bluff mapping are discussed above in the response for Issue Nos. 4 and 5.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 7:</u> (New Issue) The project's geotechnical consultant should provide logs of all offsite exploratory excavations utilized to support their conclusions.

GEI Response: Logs of Borings B-9 through B-13 from Artim and Streiff, as well as logs of the three GEI borings (B-1, B-2 and B-3) are attached as Figure Nos. IIIa-d and IVa-c, respectively.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 8</u>: (New Issue) The project's geotechnical consultant should provide detailed geologic cross sections that demonstrate stratigraphic/structural continuity across the subject site. The cross sections should demonstrate continuity between the subject site geotechnical investigation and the offsite fault trenches or excavations used for the site-specific fault evaluation.

GEI Response: As indicated above in our response to Issue No. 4, cross section A-A' along the portion of Spindrift Drive northwest of the subject site and cross section B-B' across the rear yard parallel to A-A', are attached as Figure Nos. V and VI. In addition, cross section C-C' crossing the site perpendicular to A-A' and B-B' is presented as Figure No. VII. Cross section A-A' depicts the interpreted continuity of the underlying surface of the Cretaceous Point Loma Formation. When compared with elevations of the Point Loma Formation in cross section B-B', it is our opinion that there is no significant bedrock faulting that offsets the overlying marine terrace deposits beneath the subject lot. Cross section C-C' shows the continuity in elevation between cross sections A-A' and B-B'.

The marine terrace deposits (Qop_6) , also referred to as the Bird Rock Terrace, are considered to be approximately 45ka in age at the Spindrift Drive location. Therefore, since they are not offset, there is no active fault underlying the property.



It should be noted that Artim and Streiff (1981) encountered a bedrock change from Cretaceous Point Loma Formation to Eocene Ardath Formation in their continued Spindrift Drive borings (B-1 through B-6) several hundred feet to the northeast. This contact change is bedrock faulting and is interpreted as a significant strand of strikeslip faulting on the Rose Canyon fault. Based on the significant bedrock changes, Artim and Streiff selected to perform a fault trench in the area between their borings B-3 through B-6. Significant faulting was mapped in the trench log in that section (Artim and Streiff, 1981).

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 9</u>: (New Issue) The project's geotechnical consultant must provide an explicit opinion whether or not a "potentially active" fault trace passes beneath the proposed development. The opinion must be supported by adequate data.

GEI Response: As required by the City of San Diego, GEI provides the explicit opinion that, based on the findings noted above, the site is **not** underlain by an active fault. The numerous borings within and adjacent to the site clearly demonstrate that the underlying Point Loma formation surface elevation is continuous, revealing that a strike-slip fault, which would likely result in significant vertical offsets, has not offset the 45ka Bird Rock Terrace materials.

The City of San Diego identifies "potentially active" faults as faults that have been active during the Quaternary. The 45,000-year-old Bird Rock marine terrace deposits at the location of the project are Quaternary in age. The base of the terrace deposits is not offset and they are in continuous unbroken contact with the underlying Point Loma formation as shown on cross sections A-A', B-B' and C-C', Figure Nos. V, VI and VII, respectively. We therefore render our explicit opinion that a "potentially active" fault trace does not pass below the proposed development.

<u>City Cycle 1, Issue No. 10</u>: (New Issue) Please note, Storm Water Requirements for the proposed conceptual development will be evaluated by LDR-Engineering review. Priority Development Projects may require an investigation of storm water infiltration feasibility in accordance with the current Storm Water Standards. Check with your LDR-Engineering reviewer for requirements. LDR-Engineering may determine that LDR-Geology review of a storm water infiltration evaluation is required.

<u>GEI Response</u>: If required, GEI will provide a storm water infiltration evaluation.



This opportunity to be of service is sincerely appreciated. Should you have any questions concerning this response letter, please do not hesitate to contact us. Reference to our **Job No. 21-13237** will expedite a response to your inquiries.

Respectfully submitted,

GEOTECHNICAL EXPLORATION, INC.

Jaime A. Cerros, P.E. R.C.E. 34422/G.E. 2007 Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Monte Murbach, C.E.G. 1856 Engineering Geologist



Attachments

Figure No. I, Vicinity Map Figure No. II, (Revised) Plot Plan and Site-Specific Geologic Map Figure Nos. IIIa-d, Logs of Borings B-9 through B-13 (Artim and Streiff) Figure No. IVa-c, GEI boring logs Figure No. V, Cross Section A-A' Figure No. VI, Cross Section B-B' Figure No. VII, Cross Section C-C'

Figure No. VIII, Reproduced Figure No. VIb from GEI report of June 3, 2021 (Reference 2)



VICINITY MAP



Fanelli-Huber Residence 1851 Spindrift Drive La Jolla, CA.

> Figure No. I Job No. 21-13237







Boring 9

Approximate El. 55'



Boring 10

MC	•00	*8C	OTHER TESTS	NUMBER	SOIL DESCRIPTION
1					
					8" Asphalt Concrete
		20		10-1	Medium dense, moist, brown silty to clayey fine to medium sand (SM) PLEISTOCENE SLOPEWASH ? Clayey zones ?
		50/6"		10-2	Very dense, moist, light yellowish brown micaceous silty fine to medium sand (SM) POINT LOMA FORMATION (Kp)
	1				Bottom of Hole Figure No. IIIa Job No. 21-13237
an of s		see Fr	gure A-2		Geotechnica Exploration,
	an of a		50/6"	50/6"	

Boring 11



Boring 12



Boring 13



DRAWN BY: mrk CHECKED BY: DS PROJECT NO: 501351-GE03 DATE: 10-2-81 FIGURE NO: A-15

	EQUIF	MENT			DIMENSION & TYPE OF EXCA	VATION	1		DATE LOGGED							
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	2 -	A SA		-									11	2"		
				FILL (Qaf)									2		
	4 -												17	2"		
	•															
													19	3"		
	6 -			CLAYEY SAND , fine- to medi	um-grained	SC	-						19	2"		
	-			Medium dense. Moist. Red-br	own.								19	2		
	8 -			OLD PARALIC DEPO	SITS (Qop ₆)								16	2"		
	-															
65' (MSL)	10 -												45	3"		
				SILTY SAND , fine- to medium	- arained Medium	SM	-						30	2"		
	12 -	┥┝┝ ┥╹┝╹		dense. Damp. Red-brown.	grainea. meaiann								30	2		
	-			OLD PARALIC DEPO	SITS (Qop 6)								27	2"		
	14 -															
		0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		SAND, fine- to coarse-grained cemented. Dense. Moist. Lig		SM							68	3"		
													76	2"		
	16 -			OLD PARALIC DEPO	SIIS (QOP 6)								70	2		
													66	2"		
57'	18 -			SILTY SAND , fine- to medium		SM	-						78	2"		
(MSL)	-	[+[+[]+	1	dense. Damp to moist. Light y gray-brown.	ellow-brown to light		-						/0	2		
.GDT 12	20 -															
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237 FA	BULK BAG SAMPLE SITE LOCATION 1851 Spindrift Drive, La							la, CA								
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75'	DEP	SAM			U.S.C.S.	IN-PI MOIS	IN-PI DEN	OPT MOIS	MAX DEN	DEN (% of	EXP, CON	BLO	SAM (INC)			
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	2	×.	۲ ۲ FILL (Qaf)/	CL											
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	8		Dark brown.									26	2"			
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											18	2"				
	12 -		OLD PARALIC DEPO SILTY SAND , fine- to coarse-	grained. Medium								25	2"			
			dense. Slightly moist. Yellow-l	prown.								25	2			
	14		OLD PARALIC DEPO	SITS (Qop ₆)								36	2"			
												39	2"			
	16 –											55	2			
57'												37	2"			
(MSL)	18		SILTY SAND , fine- to medium Damp. Light yellow-brown.	-grained. Dense.	SM							74	2"			
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NOTE: This Cross Section is not to be used for legal purposes. Locations and dimensions are approximet. Actual property dimensions and locations of utilities may be obtained from the Approved Building Plans or the "As-Built" Grading Plans.

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