



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Council Policy No.CO-87 - Excavation and Shoring

File #: 0110.00

Doc #: 199162

From: Rachel Ollenberger  
Manager of Engineering Services

Date: March 24, 2025

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## RECOMMENDATION:

THAT “Council Policy No.CO-87 - Excavation and Shoring” be approved.

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## PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to present a new “Council Policy No.CO-87 - Excavation and Shoring” for Council’s consideration. This Policy will provide clear expectations and requirements of excavation and shoring plans submitted in support of building permits.

## COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

Over the past few years, two development sites have experienced excavation failures in areas of the City that are underlain by complex glaciomarine clays. Excavations beyond a certain depth in this native material require specific technical expertise and experience to complete suitable excavation shoring designs. The proposed Policy will ensure that the excavation and shoring plans submitted are prepared by a Qualified Professional and outlines when an independent review will be required. The Policy also outlines the submission procedure for the plans and the design review.

## BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

There are no budget implications associated with the report or proposed “Council Policy CO-87”. Financial requirements related to the independent reviews are the responsibility of the developer.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

While independent reviews of excavation designs can still be required by staff, the lack of a Policy means that building permit excavation plans may face delays and costs to the developer as any reviews would be determined on a project by project basis.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Rachel Ollenberger, AScT  
Manger of Engineering Services

Concurrence:



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David Pollock, PEng  
Director of Engineering, Parks and Environment

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:**

I support the recommendation.



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Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment: Council Policy No.CO-87 - Excavation and Shoring