

October 13, 2023

TO: Johnston Architects

SUBJECT: Design Submittal - Geopier Soil Reinforcement REVISED  
Mercer Island Mixed-Use Development  
Mercer Island, WA

This letter and the attached documents represent our design submittal for Geopier® soil reinforcement at the site of the Mercer Island Mixed-Use development located in Mercer Island, WA. The following paragraphs document our design of the Geopier-Rampact reinforcement system for support of the mat foundations. Based on the geotechnical report and project documents it is assumed that the ground improvement will only be required west of Gridline G and that east of Gridline G the mat foundation and spread footings will be founded on competent native soils.

### Geopier Reinforcement Design

Subsurface information, as documented in the geotechnical report completed by Hart Crowser Inc., has been used as a basis for our design. Below are the simplified soil soil conditions:

- Loose to medium dense silty granular FILL, soft SILT and PEAT to variable depths between El.87ft and El.60ft.
- Underlain by interbedded layers of medium to hard SILT and silty CLAY and medium dense to dense SAND and silty SAND to the maximum exploration at about El.40ft.
- At about El.71.5 ft, where finished floor elevation (FFE) is defined, soils predominantly consist of very soft and soft SILT to about El. 60ft. In the southeast portion of building footprint, soils consist of very stiff to hard SILT and dense to very dense SAND.
- Groundwater was encountered at variable depths between 7.5 and 35 feet (assumed to be perched water).

In view of the loose/soft to medium dense/stiff sandy and silty soils, the Geopier-Rampact system or “displacement process” will be used to install the Geopier elements. The Geopier-Rampact system which we propose to utilize consists of a hollow mandrel with an internal compaction surface which is driven into the ground using a powerful static down force augmented by dynamic vertical impact energy. After driving to the design depth, the hollow mandrel serves as a conduit for aggregate placement. As the mandrel is raised and redriven downward thin lifts of compacted aggregate are formed and compacted both vertically and laterally. The process is repeated until the rammed aggregate pier is constructed. We anticipate installing Geopier elements from the approximate elevation between 75 and 76 ft. The mandrel will be driven to the dense to very dense soil conditions. Geopier elements will be installed to 20 feet or refusal below the planned FFE. Practical refusal is considered less than 1 foot of mandrel advancement in 30 seconds.

The Geopier reinforcement has been designed to support the structure based on the loading provided by the structural engineer plans with a maximum allowable bearing capacity of up to 4,000 psf which can be increased by 1/3 for short duration loading due to the ground improvement system but the ground improvement system has been designed for the actual pressures provided by the structural engineer. Actual loading of the mat provided by the structural engineer reveals an average bearing pressure of 1,000 psf. The design cell capacity

(combination of the Geopier element and surrounding matrix soil) for each Geopier element supporting foundations is 50 kips.

Our Geopier elements will be installed directly beneath the mat foundations to provide adequate static support and beneath the mat foundation in a grid pattern with an approximate maximum spacing of 5 feet on-center.

#### Spread Foundation Settlement

For our analysis, settlements are first calculated for a zone extending from the bottom of the footing to the depth of the reinforcement. Additional settlement may occur in the “lower zone” or in the unimproved soil beneath the reinforced zone. The lower zone settlement is calculated using an elastic or consolidation approach depending on the soil type. For the area of the deeper ground improvement we estimate a total settlement of approximately 1 inch and for the area of shallower ground improvement we are estimating approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch of settlement. Differential settlement over 40 feet will be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch. Please see our attached calculations for additional information.

#### Geopier Mechanics Analysis

We have provided analysis regarding the Geopier Mechanics Analysis. Below are our calculated factors of safety:

- Shearing Below Single Element: 12.8
- Shearing Within Improved Soil: 25.9
- Shearing Below Improved Soil: 31.9

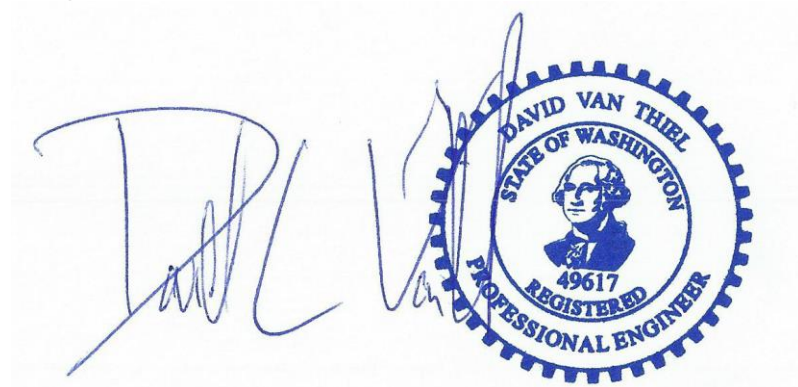
All factors of safety are acceptable to us as the ground improvement engineer and are high enough where additional deformation would not be anticipated. Calculations are attached to this design submittal.

#### Geopier Installation and Modulus Testing

The installation of the Geopier reinforcement, including a downward modulus test, will be completed in general accordance with the specifications. The installation and the modulus test will be conducted under the supervision of an experienced geotechnical engineer from Geopier Northwest. The modulus test will consist of loading the Geopier element in increments to 150% of the design load while measuring deflections to verify the design parameters. The modulus test will also incorporate a creep test at 115% of the design load.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you on this project. If you have any questions or require further information, please call.

Sincerely,  
Geopier Northwest Inc.

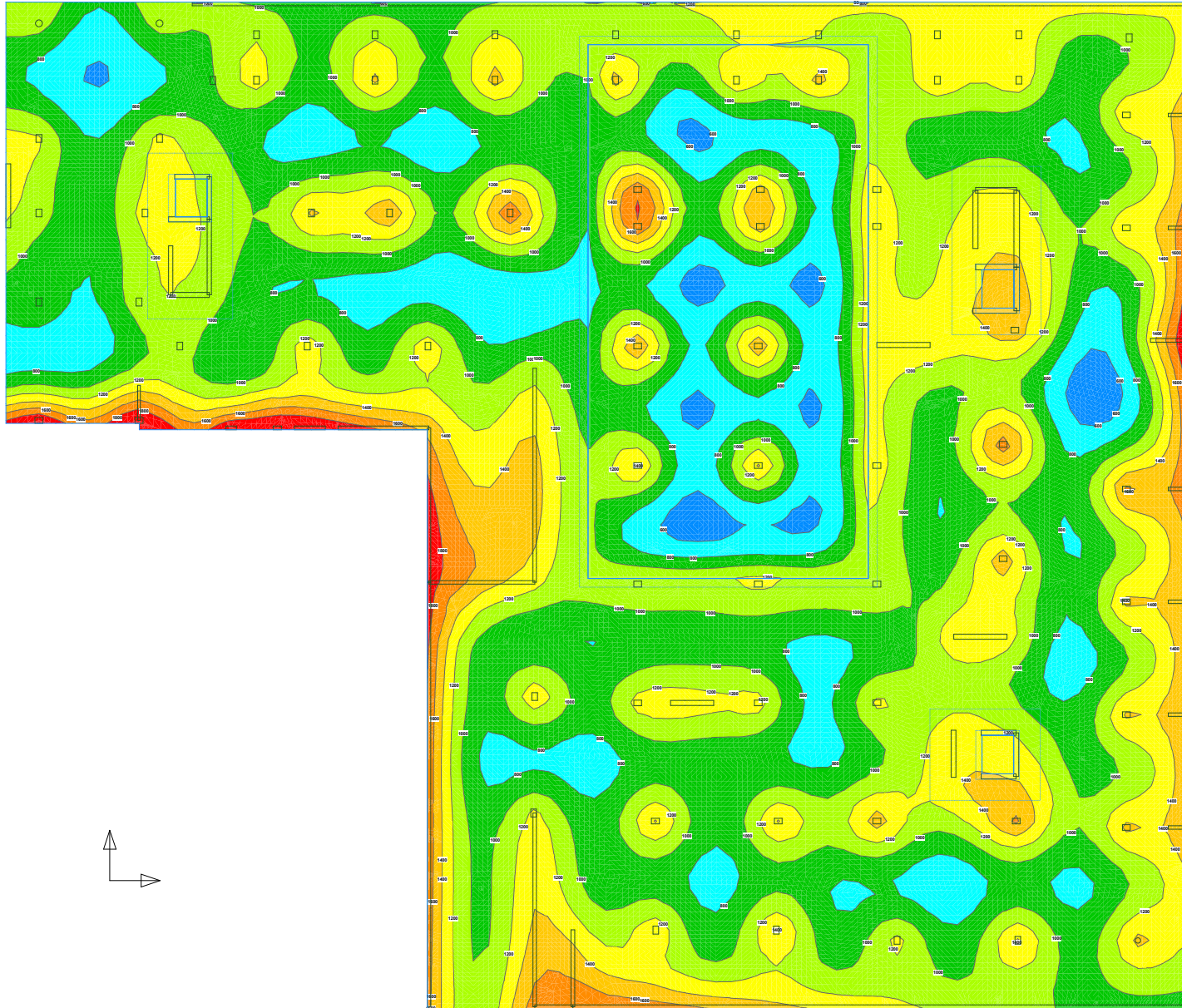
A blue ink handwritten signature of David Van Thiel is written over a circular professional engineer seal. The seal features a portrait of George Washington in the center, surrounded by the text "DAVID VAN THIEL", "STATE OF WASHINGTON", "REGISTERED", and "PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER". The number "49617" is printed below the portrait. The seal has a gear-like outer border.

David Van Thiel, P.E., G.E.

## Appendix A: Structural Loading

# Service LC: D + L: Std Soil Bearing Pressure Plan

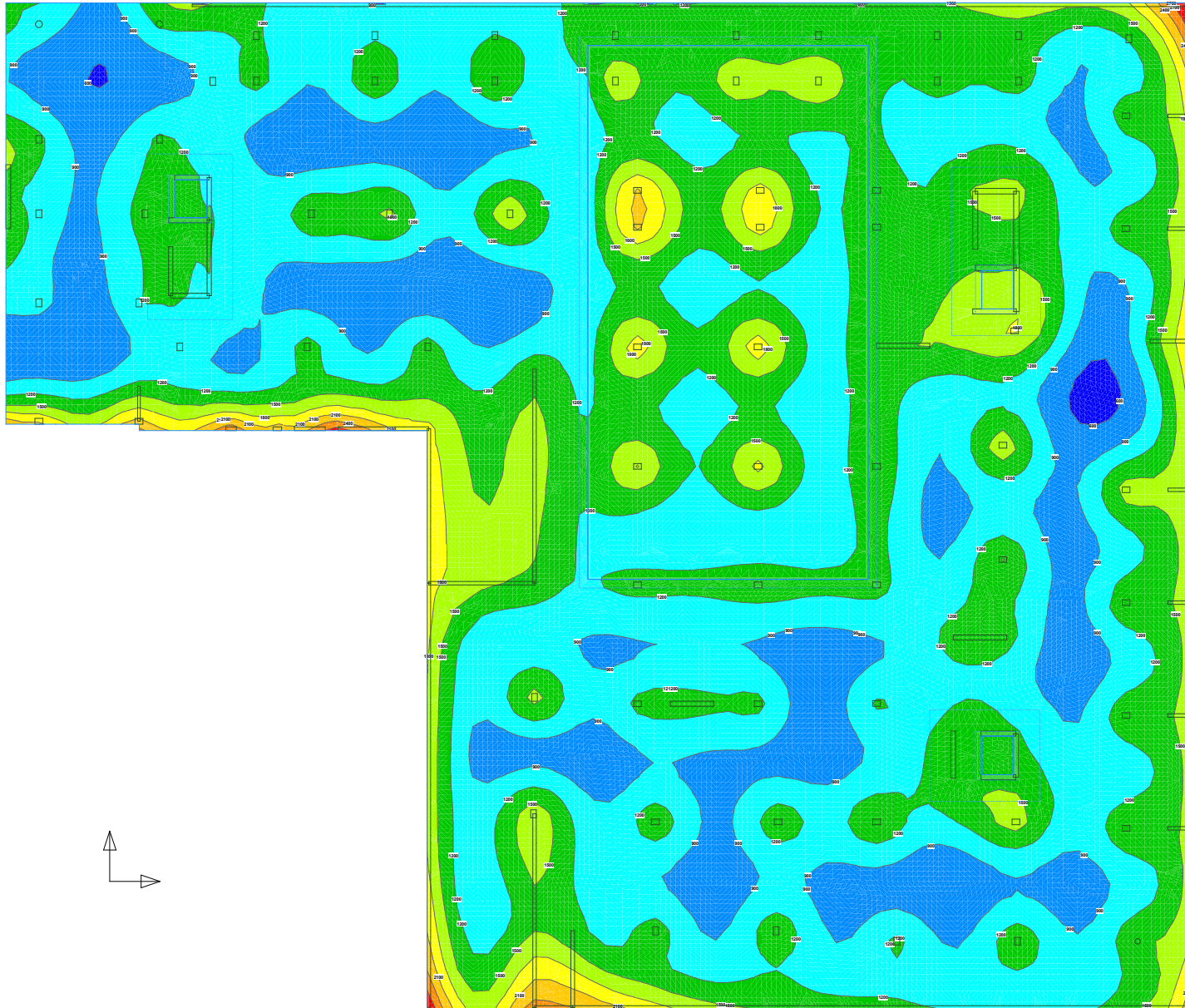
Service LC: D + L: User Control, User Define, User Drawings  
Element: Wall Elements Below, Wall Elements Above, Wall Element Outline Only, Column Elements Below, Column Elements Above, Slab Elements, Slab Element Outline Only  
Scale = 1:100  
Service LC: D + L: Area Spring Vertical Reaction Plot  
Min Value = 0 psf @ (2147,266.3) Max Value = 2270 psf @ (131.37,105.9)





# Soil Bearing Design: Max Soil Bearing Pressure Plan

Soil Bearing Design: User Lines, User Nodes, User Dimensions, Latitude Span Design, Longitude Span Design, Latitude DS Design, Longitude DS Design, P.C. Center  
Element: Wall Elements Below, Wall Elements Above, Wall Element Center Only, Column Elements Below, Column Elements Above, Slab Elements, Slab Element Center Only  
Soil Bearing Design: Area Spring Vertical Reaction Plot (Maximum Values)  
Min Value = 0 psf @ (2147,262.3) Max Value = 2889 psf @ (234,626.3)



## Appendix B: Bearing Calculations

PROJECT: Mecer Island Mixed Use \*Deep  
 NO:  
 DATE: 10/13/2023  
 ENGINEER: DVT



RAMMED AGGREGATE PIER® DESIGN FOR MATS

Equivalent B = 185.7 ft.

Mat Width 115 ft  
 Mat Length 300 ft  
 Mat Area 34500 sq. ft.  
 Equiv Width, B 185.7 ft  
 Floor Pressure 1000 psf  
 Dgw 8 ft  
 $\gamma$  soil 125 pcf  
 Hs 15 ft  
 Pier Diameter 24 inches

Rammed Aggregate Pier® Design:

Spacing (feet o-c)	Layer Thickness	Ra	Em (ksf)	Eg (ksf)	Ecomp (ksf)	z (ft)	z/Beq	Center			Edge		
								Influence Factor	$\Delta P$ (ksf)	S (inches)	Influence Factor	$\Delta P$ (ksf)	S (inches)
5.00	4	0.13	100	1400	263	2.0	0.01	1.00	1.00	0.2	0.98	0.98	0.2
5.00	4	0.13	100	1400	263	6.0	0.03	1.00	1.00	0.2	0.83	0.83	0.2
5.00	4	0.13	100	1400	263	10.0	0.05	1.00	1.00	0.2	0.73	0.73	0.1
5.00	3	0.13	100	1400	263	13.5	0.07	1.00	1.00	0.2	0.67	0.67	0.1
5.00	2	0.13	400	5000	978	16.0	0.09	1.00	1.00	0.0	0.64	0.64	0.0

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Selected for Design: Spacing (ft) 5.00 Ra 0.13 Ctr UZ (in) 0.8 Edge UZ (in) 0.6

Lower Zone:

Layer	Soil Type	Esoil ksf	Ccr	Ccc	OCP ksf	Thickness ft	z ft	$\sigma_v$ psf	z/Beq	Center			Edge		
										$I_\sigma$ Center	$\Delta P$ ksf	S (Center) in	$I_\sigma$ Edge	$\Delta P$ ksf	S (Edge) in
UZ	GP-CL					17.0	8.5					0.8			0.6
1	ML		0.005		18.76	10	22.00	1876	0.12	0.99	0.99	0.11	0.61	0.61	0.1
2	ML		0.005		25.02	10	32.00	2502	0.17	0.97	0.97	0.09	0.57	0.57	0.1
3	ML		0.0025		100.75	71	72.50	5038	0.39	0.81	0.81	0.14	0.47	0.47	0.1

108.0

UZ (in) = 0.8  
 LZ (in) = 0.3  
 Total Center (in) = 1.1  
 UZ (in) = 0.6  
 LZ (in) = 0.2  
 Total Edge (in) = 0.8



PROJECT: Mecer Island Mixed Use \*Shallow  
 NO:  
 DATE: 10/13/2023  
 ENGINEER: DVT



RAMMED AGGREGATE PIER® DESIGN FOR MATS

Equivalent B = 185.7 ft.

Mat Width 115 ft  
 Mat Length 300 ft  
 Mat Area 34500 sq. ft.  
 Equiv Width, B 185.7 ft  
 Floor Pressure 1000 psf  
 Dgw 1 ft  
 $\gamma$  soil 125 pcf  
 Hs 1 ft  
 Pier Diameter 24 inches

Rammed Aggregate Pier® Design:

Spacing (feet o-c)	Layer Thickness	Ra	Em (ksf)	Eg (ksf)	Ecomp (ksf)	z (ft)	z/Beq	Center			Edge		
								Influence Factor	$\Delta P$ (ksf)	S (inches)	Influence Factor	$\Delta P$ (ksf)	S (inches)
5.00	0.5	0.13	100	1400	263	0.3	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.0	1.00	1.00	0.0
5.00	0.5	0.13	100	1400	263	0.8	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.0	1.00	1.00	0.0
5.00	0.5	0.13	100	1400	263	1.3	0.01	1.00	1.00	0.0	1.00	1.00	0.0
5.00	0.5	0.13	100	1400	263	1.8	0.01	1.00	1.00	0.0	1.00	1.00	0.0
5.00	1	0.13	400	5000	978	2.5	0.01	1.00	1.00	0.0	0.98	0.98	0.0

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Selected for Design: Spacing (ft) 5.00 Ra 0.13 Ctr UZ (in) 0.1 Edge UZ (in) 0.1

Lower Zone:

Layer	Soil Type	Esoil ksf	Ccr	Ccc	OCP ksf	Thickness ft	z ft	$\sigma_v$ psf	z/Beq	Center			Edge		
										$I_\sigma$ Center	$\Delta P$ ksf	S <sub>(Center)</sub> in	$I_\sigma$ Edge	$\Delta P$ ksf	S <sub>(Edge)</sub> in
UZ	GP-CL					3.0	1.5					0.1			0.1
1	ML		0.005		5.63	10	8.00	563	0.04	1.00	1.00	0.27	0.77	0.77	0.2
2	ML		0.005		11.89	10	18.00	1189	0.10	1.00	1.00	0.16	0.63	0.63	0.1
3	ML		0.0025		78.25	77	61.50	3912	0.33	0.87	0.87	0.20	0.49	0.49	0.1
100.0										UZ (in) = 0.1 LZ (in) = 0.6 Total Center (in) = 0.7			UZ (in) = 0.1 LZ (in) = 0.5 Total Edge (in) = 0.6		

## Appendix B: Settlement Calculations

**GEOPIER BEARING CAPACITY ANALYSIS**



Run Date: 10/13/2023 7:55

PROJECT: Mercer Island Mixed Use

Reference: Technical Bulletin No. 2, "Bearing Capacity of Geopier-Reinforced Foundation Systems", by Geopier Foundation Co., Inc. (1999)

Footing Data:

Design Bearing Pressure	q	=	3,000	(psf)	Total Column Load (kips)	=	103,500
Footing Length	L	=	300.00	(ft)	Footing Area (sq. ft)	=	34,500.00
Footing Width	B	=	115.00	(ft)	Total Pier Area (sq. ft)	=	4,333.20
Footing Depth	D <sub>f</sub>	=	2.00	(ft)	Area Ratio	=	0.126
Pier Diameter		=	24	(in)	Stress Applied to Piers (psf)	=	14,082
Number of Piers		=	1,380.0		Stress Applied to Matrix Soil (psf)	=	1,408
Pier Modulus	K <sub>Gp</sub>	=	125	(pci)	Relative Stiffness Ratio	=	10
					Individual Pier Load (kips)	=	44.22
Depth to GWL Below Finish Floor		=	1.0	(ft)			

Matrix Soil Data:

UZ Soil Modulus	K <sub>s</sub>	=	13	(pci)		
Allowable Bearing Pressure		=	1,500	(psf)	Lower Zone:	
Undrained Strength	S <sub>u</sub>	=		(psf)		
Cohesion	c	=	200	(psf)	500	(psf)
Friction Angle	Φ <sub>s</sub>	=	26	(degrees)	34	(degrees)
Unsubmerged Unit Weight:						
Above D <sub>f</sub>	γ <sub>2</sub>	=	120	(pcf)		
Below D <sub>f</sub>	γ <sub>1</sub>	=	120	(pcf)		

Geopier Data:

Pier Diameter	d	=	2.0	(ft)	
Effective diam.	d <sub>e</sub>	=	2	(ft)	** effective shaft diam. = nominal diam. + 6"
Shaft Drill Depth		=	15	(ft.)	** Assumed Average Shaft Length
Effective Shaft	H <sub>eff.</sub>	=	17.0	(ft.)	** effective pier length for soil bearing capacity
Modulus	k <sub>gp</sub>	=	125	(pci)	
Friction Angle	Φ <sub>gp</sub>	=	48	(degrees)	
Unit weight:					
Unsubmerged	γ <sub>gp</sub>	=	135	(pcf)	
Design	γ <sub>gp</sub>	=	73	(pcf)	
Pier Area	A <sub>gp</sub>	=	4,333.20	(sq. ft.)	
Area Ratio	R <sub>A</sub>	=	0.126	(A <sub>f</sub> /A <sub>gp</sub> )	
Stiffness Ratio	R <sub>s</sub>	=	10		
Top-of-pier Stress	σ <sub>gp</sub>	=	14,082	(psf)	



A. Shearing Below the Tip of Individual Geopier Element

*predominantly clayey soils where essentially undrained conditions apply*

Ultimate Top-of-pier stress	$Q_{ult}$	=	0 psf	$Q_{ult} = 4s_u d_e H_{eff} / d^2 + 9s_u$ (Eq. 11.)
<b>For Design Pier Stress = 14082 psf</b>		=	<b>0.00</b>	

*predominantly silty and/or sandy soils where essentially drained conditions apply*

Effective shaft diameter	$d_e$	=	2.5 ft	(effective shaft diam. = nominal diam. + 6")
Crosssectional area of Geopier element	$A_g$	=	3.1 ft <sup>2</sup>	$A_g = \pi d_e^2 / 4$
Average unit shaft friction (drained)	$f_s$	=	755 psf	$f_s = (d_r + H_{eff} / 2) \gamma \tan(\Phi_s) \tan^2(45 + \Phi_s / 2)$ (Eq. 12)
Effective area of Geopier element shaft	$A_{shaft}$	=	134 ft <sup>2</sup>	$A_{shaft} = \pi d_e H_{eff}$
Ultimate shaft frictional capacity (drained)	$Q_{shaft}$	=	32,107 psf	$Q_{shaft} = f_s A_{shaft} / A_g$
	$Q_{shaft}$	=	<u>100,868</u> pounds	$Q_{shaft} = f_s A_{shaft}$
Effective overburden stress @ pier tip	$\sigma_{vtip}$	=	1157 psf	
Bearing Capacity Factors:	$\Phi_s = 34$ degrees			(Use Meyerhof factors for bearing capacity below individual piers)
cohesion	$N_c$	=	145	
friction	$N_\gamma$	=	0	
embedment	$N_q$	=	65	
Ultimate bearing Capacity at pier tip (drained)	$q_{tip}$	=	147,692 psf	$q_{tip} = c N_c + (0.5) d_e \gamma N_\gamma + \sigma_{vtip} N_q$ (Eq. 9)
Ultimate tip capacity (drained):	$Q_{tip}$	=	<u>463,988</u> pounds	$Q_{tip} = q_{tip} A_g$
Ultimate Top-of-Pier Stress	$q_{ult}$	=	179,799 psf	$q_{ult} = (Q_{shaft} + Q_{tip}) / A_g$
<b>For Design Pier Stress = 14082 psf</b>	<b>FS</b>	=	<b>12.77</b>	



**B. Shearing Within The Geopier-Reinforced Soil Matrix**

Composite Soil Strength Parameters:

$R_a$ Reduction Factor =	0.4	Effective $R_a$ =	0.05
Soil Stress Concentration Factor =	2.5	(Reduced $R_a$ to account for vert. stress decrease with depth)	
$\Phi_{comp.}$ =	30 degrees		
$C_{comp.}$ =	0 psf	(based on value entered for $S_u$ )	
	175 psf	(based on value entered for C)	

$$q_{ult.} = k_1(C_{comp.}N_c) + k_2(\gamma_1BN_\gamma) + \gamma_2D_fN_q$$

where:

$k_1 = 1$	$k_1 = 1.3$ for square and rectangular footings; and 1.0 for continuous footings
$k_2 = 0.5$	$k_2 = 0.5$ for square, rectangular and continuous footings
$N_c = 36$	} (Terzaghi General Shear Factors)
$N_\gamma = 20$	
$N_q = 22$	

$$q_{ult.} = k_1(C_{comp.}N_c) + k_2(\gamma_1BN_\gamma) + \gamma_2D_fN_q$$

$q_{ult.} =$	6,296	66,240	5,280
$q_{ult.} =$	77,816 psf		

**For Design Footing Stress = 3000 psf FS = 25.9**

**C. Shearing Below The Bottom of The Geopier-Reinforced Soil Matrix**

Depth below FF to btm. of Geopier-reinforced zone	H =	19.0 feet	
Effective stress at btm. of Geopier-reinf. zone	$\sigma_{v-uz/lz}$ =	1157 psf	
Stress induced from footing @ UZ/LZ plane	$q_{bottom}$ =	2,421 psf	$q_{bottom} = q\{BL/[(B+H)(L+H)]\}$ (Eq. 15)

*predominantly clayey soils where essentially undrained conditions apply*

Undrained strength of soil below UZ/LZ plane	$S_u$ =	0 psf	
Stress induced from footing @ UZ/LZ plane	$q_{bottom}$ =	2,421 psf	$q_{bottom} = q\{BL/[(B+H)(L+H)]\}$ (Eq. 15)

**For Design Footing Stress = 3000 psf FS = 0.0**

*predominantly silty and/or sandy soils where essentially drained conditions apply*

Bearing Capacity Factors:	$\Phi_s = 34$ degrees		(Use Terzaghi local shear factors for shearing below the reinforced zone)
cohesion	$N_c =$	21	
friction	$N_\gamma =$	8	
embedment	$N_q =$	10	
Ultimate bearing capacity @ UZ/LZ (drained)	$q_{ult.} =$	77,268 psf	$q_{ult} = cN_c + (0.5)B\gamma N_\gamma + \sigma_{v-uz/lz}N_q$ (Eq. 9)
Stress induced from footing @ UZ/LZ plane	$q_{bottom} =$	2,421 psf	$q_{bottom} = q\{BL/[(B+H)(L+H)]\}$ (Eq. 15)

**For Design Footing Stress = 3000 psf FS = 31.9**