

City of Beaufort 2021-119 Whitehall Board Walk project

Questions and Answers

1) Does the engineer require hammer or vibrator pile driving?

The piles should be installed with an impact hammer (vibratory and drop hammers not acceptable). Please refer to sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note #16 where a diesel hammer is required, and vibratory hammers are prohibited.

2) May the contractor use 12” pile butts? versus 10” pile butts?

Using 12” piles in lieu of 10” piles is acceptable. Note that the minimum pile diameter stated is to be measured 3 feet from the butt (sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note #4).

3) Is a test pile (40’) required for weight bearing, lateral, and or uplift?

Sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note # 17 - Pile load tests are not required for this project, provided the piles are installed to the specified lengths.

4) Are we only to set up the testing apparatus and tools needed or are we to provide the testing itself? How many piles will need to be tested for the test piles? Can you provide a location of the test piles or can we assume that they are within 10 to 15 ft of land on either side of the span?

Sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note # 17 - Pile load tests are not required for this project, provided the piles are installed to the specified lengths.

- 5) Will there need to be concrete air and break testing? Typically we do not test an SCDOT mix of 2500 on a small pour of this size. Will this be required?**

Concrete for sidewalks will be 2,500 psi. CEI personnel will perform all sampling and testing for concrete. 2,500 psi will require concrete cylinders only for compressive strength. All other concrete will be tested for slump, air content and compressive strength.

- 6) What is the required bearing capacity?**

Sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note # 17 - Pile load tests are not required for this project, provided the piles are installed to the specified lengths.

- 7) Please provide the details in regards to the test requirements for the piles.**

Sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note # 17 - Pile load tests are not required for this project, provided the piles are installed to the specified lengths.

- 8) We feel the piles should be increased to 12-in butt piles for durability and longevity with a very nominal cost. This was discussed in the precon, but we would like to ensure that this change is going to be made and the requirement.**

There will be no change to the pile size required as stated in the construction documents.

Using 12" piles in lieu of 10" piles is acceptable. Note that the minimum pile diameter stated is to be measured 3 feet from the butt (sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note #4).

9) Could we be allowed to install the piles with vibratory hammer versus impact hammer, as this would be a significant savings to the project and will certainly suffice for this application?

No, vibratory hammers will not be allowed. Please refer to sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note #16 where a diesel hammer is required, and vibratory hammers are prohibited.

10) For testing load capacity, is a dynamometer an acceptable method for testing as long as the dynamometer is certified?

Sheet S0.0, Timber Piles, note # 17 - Pile load tests are not required for this project, provided the piles are installed to the specified lengths.

11) It is unclear in the specifications, but likely the contractor will have barges or floating mats that will make contact with the mud bed at low tide. We would just like to ensure that this is an acceptable method versus bringing in a very large crane in order to make the reach. This, too, will impact cost significantly.

OCRM Permit: Adjacent high ground is utilized to the maximum extent possible for access and floating barge mats are used to access wetland areas. Access using barges should be limited to navigable waterways and should not involve the use of small tidal creeks or newly constructed canals.

12) Due to fluctuations in the lumber market that we are currently experiencing, can you provide a way for us to price this job now that would fluctuate up or down on lumber materials or could this be negotiated prior to going to contract?

There will be no lumber index for the project. However, for reference purposes only, the City will document the Lumber Composite Prices as reflected in the most recent weekly report prior to the bid (anticipated issue date 8/11) as published by Random Lengths (Random Lengths: Information for the Wood Products Industry). Should lumber prices drastically increase/decrease from the bid date to the lumber purchase order date, the City will work with contractor to determine an appropriate contract adjustment.