Issue Date: Rev. August 18, 2012  
Code/Section: 2012 IBC: Table 1604.5, Section 1605.3, Sections 1705.3 & 1705.8, Table 1705.8, Sections 1803.2 Exception, 1803.5.1, Sections 1806.1, 1806.2 & 1806.3, Table 1806.2, Section 1803.3.1.4, Sections 3105.2, 3105.3, 3105.4 & 3105.7, ASCE 7-10: Section 12.8.1, Table 12.2.1  
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Approved by: Technical Review Team

Purpose: To develop a plan review policy for freestanding signs, billboards, fences, and parking lot shade structures with a 10-foot maximum clear height to achieve consistent plan reviews.

Policy: Foundations: A geotechnical report and special geotechnical inspections will not be required for foundations of freestanding signs, billboards, fences, and parking lot shade structures with a 10-foot maximum clear height, if the foundation is designed in conformance with TRT/DOC/00878 Special Inspection for Presumptive Load-Bearing Design https://www.phoenix.gov/pddsite/Documents/TRT/dsd_trt_pdf_00878.pdf.

Design Parameters: The risk category shall be I per IBC Table 1604.5. The importance factor for seismic design shall be 1.00 per ASCE 7-10, Table 1.5-2.

Uncased, cast-in-place pier foundations for parking lot shade structures with a 10-foot maximum clear height, designed using the prescriptive soil values for class 4 or 5 material per IBC Table 1806.2, shall be allowed to utilize the end bearing and frictional resistance simultaneously without a geotechnical report.

Policy Rationale: Foundations: Section 1803.2, Exception was used to allow the use of Table 1806.2 for design of the foundations. The values in Table 1806.2 are intended to be the lower-bound allowable pressures whereas a soils report establishes specific criteria to be verified to obtain the allowable pressures listed in the soils report. Therefore, geotechnical special inspection will not be required, unless specified by the Engineer of Record, when using Table 1806.2, since specific requirements do not have to be verified and our normal inspections can verify diameter and depth of excavated piers. The sealed statement by the registrant assures that class of materials stated was not arbitrarily selected.

Design Parameters: Freestanding signs, billboards, fences and parking lot shade structures with a 10-foot maximum clear height will be considered a low hazard to human life in the event of failure.