

TO: ALL BUILDING DIVISION PERSONNEL
FROM: DOUG WISE
BUILDING DIVISION DIRECTOR
PREPARED BY: BUILDING DIVISION
SUBJECT: SOIL INVESTIGATION
PPM #: PB-O-007

ISSUE DATE
March 21, 2019

EFFECTIVE DATE
May 9, 2019

PURPOSE:

To clarify the requirements contained in the Florida Building Codes.

UPDATES:

Future updates to this PPM are the responsibility of the Director of the Building Division, Deputy Building Official, Assistant Deputy Building Official, or Codes Product & Training Supervisor, under the authority of the Director of the Building Division.

AUTHORITY:

Section 1803 Florida Building Code, section 401.4 Florida Building Code, Residential and section 107.3.5 (8) Palm Beach County Amendments to the Florida Building Code Chapter 1 Administration.

POLICY:

A **soil test** and subsequent soil preparation shall be required as set forth in Section 1803 of the Florida Building Code and section 401.4 of the Florida Building Code, Residential. The results shall be certified, as specified in FBC section 1803.6.

PROCEDURE:

Plan Review

Plan review shall require preliminary soil analysis be provided for commercial and multi-family buildings as required by PBC Amendments section 107.3.5 for minimum plan review criteria.

Inspections

A Soil certification must be provided for each structure. This certification shall be presented to the structural inspector at the foundation/slab inspection. The certification must address the following areas and the language therein shall be specific:

- Building Permit Number, Site Specific Identification, and Date
- A statement certifying that the soil on which the referenced structure rests has been prepared, examined and tested in accordance with **Section 1803** of the Florida Building Code,
- The certification shall include the bearing capacity of the soil in accordance with Section 1803.6, and expressed in lbs/sq ft)
- Pilings shall be certified in accordance with Florida Building Code Section 1803.5.5 for Deep foundations.
- Signature and seal of engineer.



DOUG WISE
BUILDING DIVISION DIRECTOR

Supersession History

1. PPM# PB-O-007, issued 3/87
2. PPM# PB-O-007, issued 2/88
3. PPM# PB-O-007, issued 12/88
4. PPM# PB-O-007, issued 9/96
5. PPM# PB-O-007, issued 4/17/12
6. PPM# PB-O-007, issued 5/19