



**City of Santa Clara**  
 Building Division  
 1500 Warburton Ave.  
 Santa Clara, CA 95050  
 www.santaclaraca.gov

Building Division: (408) 615-2440  
 Email: Building@santaclaraca.gov  
 Permit Center: (408) 615-2420  
 Email: PermitCenter@santaclaraca.gov  
 Automated Inspection Scheduling System: (408) 615-2400

## FOUNDATION and SOILS INSPECTION GUIDELINE - COMMERCIAL

1. Provide a survey letter or certification verifying that the top of foundation/pad elevations and all property line setback requirements are in accordance with the city-approved plans. This letter or certification shall be prepared, wet stamped (with professional registration number) and signed by a California licensed land surveyor or a civil engineer licensed to perform surveys. This letter and the approved stamped plans shall be available on site for verification.
2. Provide a written field report or letter by the Geotechnical Engineer who prepared the project soils investigation stating the following:
  - a. The building pad was prepared and compacted in accordance with the project soils report, plans and specifications
  - b. The foundation and/or pile excavation, depth and backfill materials, and drainage (if applicable) conform to the project soils report and city-approved plans.
3. Required special inspections must be performed prior to the city inspection. These inspections must be based solely upon the city-approved stamped plans on site, Special Inspection and Testing Agreement, and Structural Tests and Inspections Schedule (C-10). The special inspector must fill out the supplied "Required Structural Tests and Inspections" (yellow card) and include a clear description and the location of the work that is approved.
4. Prior to the city inspection, rebar must be secured against displacement, and all concrete cover and rebar spacing (clearances) must be verified in accordance with the approved plans.
5. Failure to perform any of the above items *prior to* inspection may result in the termination of the inspection and the assessment of a re-inspection fee.
6. In the absence of concrete cover specifications on the plans, use ACI 318-14, Table 20.6.1.3.1 - Specified concrete cover for cast-in-place nonprestressed concrete members:

Concrete exposure	Member	Reinforcement	Specified cover, in.
Cast against and permanently in contact with ground	All	All	3
Exposed to weather or in contact with ground	All	No. 6 through No. 18 bars	2
		No. 5 bar, W31 or D31 wire, and smaller	1 ½
Not exposed to weather or in contact with ground	Slabs, joists, and walls	No. 14 and No. 18 bars	1 ½
		No. 11 bar and smaller	¾
	Beams, columns, pedestals, and tension ties	Primary reinforcement, stirrups, ties, spirals, and hoops	1 ½