



Town of Farragut Code Enforcement

Engineered Soil and Footing Letter(s)

Minimum Requirements

In the event soft soils and/or rock are encountered and/or if you are building on a site with compacted fill an engineer's letter will be required to verify the bearing capacity of the soil and/or the compaction test results of the filled soils where the foundation resides.

Typically, an engineer's letter for soil compaction / bearing capacity does not include the footing information and/or a footing inspection report from a state licensed engineer. A Town of Farragut Building Inspector will still need to conduct a footing inspection for projects when a soil letter only is being provided or required.

Engineer's letters for footings shall include both, the soil compaction / bearing capacity information and the required information for engineered footings (both sets of requirements are outlined below).

Minimum Requirements for Soil Compaction / Bearing Capacity Letters:

1. Address, Permit Number, and if applicable, Subdivision/Shopping Center Name and Lot Number;
2. Indicate the Method of Observation/Testing;
3. Were soft soils encountered? If yes, what corrective action was taken?
4. Was rock encountered? If yes, what corrective action was taken?
5. Indicate the bearing capacity and "Type" of the soil encountered, observed, and tested;
6. Pictures –
 - a) Provide a minimum of one picture showing the entire site with the address or lot number visible;
 - b) Provide additional pictures of the areas observed and/or tested.

Minimum Requirements for Engineered Footing Letters:

1. Address, Permit Number, and if applicable, Subdivision/Shopping Center Name and Lot Number;
2. Footings – indicate the width and depth of excavated footings; horizontal slope of bottom of footings does not exceed 1:10. All portions of footings match the reviewed, stamped building plans.
3. Grade Stakes – indicate the minimum depth of concrete, as demonstrated by the installed "grade stakes", to be placed in footings;
4. Reinforcing Steel – indicate size and number of bars in footings and/or piers and the min. lap lengths at splices;
5. Bulkheads – indicate the bulkheads were installed properly, how many bulkheads exist and the depths and thickness of concrete at bulkheads. Indicate reinforcement bars located within bulkheads are properly installed ("Z" bars).
6. Include all detailed drawings as required for the engineered footing (not all "letters" will require a detail drawing, consult with a Town of Farragut Inspector as needed).
7. Include all the required information for soil compaction / bearing capacity as outlined above.
8. Pictures:
 - a. Provide a minimum of one picture showing the entire site with the address or lot number visible;
 - b. Provide additional pictures of the areas observed, tested, and/or engineered.

My Government Online (MGO) Requirements for Engineered Soil and Footing Letters:

If digging footings and conditions are encountered that will require an engineer letter the permit holder shall request the footing inspection as usual and enter in the request notes that the services of an engineer will be utilized and who the engineer is. The Town of Farragut will receive the request and we will add an engineered letter requirement into your project online with the footing inspection. Once the letter has been uploaded to MGO we will review it. If approved, we will also approve the footing inspection based on the Engineer's letter.

Additional Notes:

1. The above requirements are the minimum requirements only and additional information may be requested by a Town of Farragut Code Official pending site-specific conditions.
2. All letters, plans, and specifications shall be prepared by a design professional registered by the State of Tennessee. The professionals shall seal, sign and date all related documents and drawings (per the Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners Reference Manual for Building Officials and Design Professionals).

REVISED JANUARY 14th, 2020