



**BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

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BUILDING

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ENGINEERING

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PROVISIONAL RESIDENTIAL REGULATIONS REGARDING SOILS INVESTIGATIONS

Section 1802 of the 2007 California Building Code requires a soils investigation report prepared by a Registered Design Professional (licensed California Civil Engineer) prior to constructing structures assigned to Seismic Design Categories D, E and F (most structures in the City of Chico will be Seismic Design Category D). Soils investigations shall comply with Section 1802.2.7 of the 2007 California Building Code.

Soils investigation reports meeting the requirements of Section 1802.2.7 shall be provided with building permit applications.

The City of Chico will exempt the following structures from the requirements of Section 1802.2.7 where ground slopes do not exceed 3 units horizontal to 1 unit vertical and “expansive” soils are not present:

- Decks
- Pools
- Ground mounted photovoltaic systems
- Mobile/Manufactured homes
- Residential additions not exceeding 500 square feet with perimeter footings containing a minimum of one #4 bar top and bottom.
- Detached residential accessory structures not exceeding 500 square feet with perimeter footings containing a minimum of one #4 bar top and bottom.

For homes built to the standards of conventional framing the City of Chico will also:

- Accept existing geotechnical reports for subdivisions.
- Allow replacement of a single family residence if the original dwelling was destroyed due to fire.

For engineered homes:

- The City of Chico may accept a soils statement by the engineer of record. Please contact Jerry Kotysan, Senior Plan Check Engineer, at 879-6711 prior to making an application.