INTRODUCTION

This information is presented to make builders aware of some of the special requirements associated with pool construction. The City’s proximity to the ocean environment and the Capistrano Beach bluff top pose some unique conditions that are not normally found in other parts of the state.

The sulfate content of most coastal soil is generally “severe” as categorized by the 2016 California Building Code chapter 19, and table 1904-2.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

• Soils reports are required for all pools located at bluff top sites and along Beach Road.

• At all other sites, 4500 psi concrete (shotcrete) with a water/cement ratio of 0.45 and type V cement may be used in lieu of a soils report.

• Pools may be designed and built using less than 4500 psi concrete with a justifying soils report. A letter from a soils engineer, addressing the suitability of the site, the soil sulfides, the corresponding design parameters, and the soils report will be required at time of submittal.

• In all cases, deputy inspection and the appropriate reports are required for all shotcrete placements.

• **Shotcrete** concrete (wet or dry) shall conform to the following:
  × Shall have an ultimate compressive strength of 4500 psi. (Unless a soils report recommends an alternate strength).
  × A water-cement ratio of 0.45.
  × Type V cement.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

• All sheets of the final plans and front sheet of the structural calculations, documents and soils reports prepared by a civil, structural or architect shall bear the signature and stamp of the professional engineer or architect, date of signing, and the expiration date of the registration.

• The Engineer of record shall review and approve the soils report.

*Please note, Gunite is a registered trademark name for the dry process of shotcrete. The building code does not recognize “Gnite”. All requirements for shotcrete per table 19-A-4 apply to either application.*