### Task 2:Investigation of the Existing Conditions for Compliance

On June 6, 2012 Volkert conducted an investigation at the Kalorama Park site. The purpose of our investigation was to evaluate the conditions in the field and determine if further steps are required to complete the construction of the site.

We took samples at 6 locations throughout the site. Five of these were test pits were in lawn areas (TP#1 through TP#5) and one was a composite sample taken in the planting bed (TP#6) adjacent to the basketball court. Various excavations in this planting bed were taken to understand the condition of the entire area.

We also conducted a visual evaluation of the berms (B1, B2, and B3), planting beds, and other constructed elements. Our investigation of the site revealed that various elements of the proposed improvements were not properly constructed. The following are our findings and recommendations.



#### A. Site Plan

Site Plan from sheet 4 of the construction drawings, dated 11/6/2009

### **B.** Soil Condition – Test Pits

#### Locations (See Site Plan, above)

The location for the test pits were determined based on observations during renovation of the park. It is believed that construction procedures used did not comply with the construction drawings, which resulted in construction debris being buried under the lawn areas.



### Weather Conditions

Weather conditions were sunny and fair with low humidity. Rain fall occurred the previous day.

#### General Method

The pits were dug using small hand tools (pick ax, shovel, and a manual auger). The pits were dug to a depth sufficient to determine the extent of construction and nature of the soil medium.





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At 18 to 24 inches we encountered sandy soil and construction debris. The construction debris consisted of pieces of concrete, asphalt, brick, and filter fabric.

#### TP#1: 24" and deeper

As the boring process continued it was clear the layer of sand mixed with construction debris extended throughout the area around TP#2.

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS	
See Above.	<ul><li>a. Remove top 12" of material and provide suitable mix.</li><li>b. Treat with sod or seed.</li></ul>	

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OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS	
See Above.	a. Remove top 6" of material and provide	
<i>2</i>	suitable mix.	

#### b. Treat with sod or seed.

#### TP#6 - Test Pit at Planting Bed:







#### TP: 0"-6"



TP: 6"-12"

#### TP#6: 0"-6"

At 0 to 6 inches we encountered a layer of mulch on wet soil. The clay like medium appeared to be inadequate. However, the plants appeared healthy. Roots of shrubs have spread through the planting medium. Weeds are abundant. Roots of weeds remain on the top 1 inch of the planting soil.

# **TP#6: 6"-12"** At 6 to 12 inches the soil medium was continuously moist with minor construction debris.

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
See Above.	Remove weeds (Also see recommendations in
	the Plantings section).

### C. Berms (Adjacent to Bioswales) & Drainage



Bioswale details from sheet 8 of the construction drawings, dated 11/6/2009



Berm B1



Catch Basin at Berm B1

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul> <li>Bioswale appears to be working normally.</li> <li>Berm is mostly well covered with lawn. In some area, bare patches appear.</li> <li>Soil uphill of the berm appears to be adequate (See TP#3 above).</li> <li>Catch basin at the end of bioswale has standing water. The outfall pipe</li> </ul>	<ul><li>a. Prepare bare areas around the catch basin for new lawn.</li><li>b. Treat area with seed or sod.</li><li>c. Flush catch basin and cleanout pipes.</li></ul>
appears to be clogged.	



Berm B2



Catch Basin at Berm B2

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
• Bioswale appears to be working normally.	a. Treat area with seed or sod.
• Berm is mostly well covered with lawn. In some area, bare patches	b. Flush catch basin and cleanout pipes.
appear.	
• Catch basin at the end of bioswale is dry.	



Berm B3



Catch Basin at Berm B3

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul> <li>Bioswale appears to be working normally.</li> <li>Berm is mostly well covered with lawn. In some area, bare patches appear.</li> <li>Catch basin at the end of bioswale has miscellaneous debris.</li> </ul>	<ul><li>a. Prepare bare areas around the catch basin for new lawn.</li><li>b. Treat area with seed or sod.</li><li>c. Remove debris in catch basin. Flush catch basin and cleanout pipes.</li></ul>

### **D.** Plantings



Landscape Plan from sheet 16 of the construction drawings, dated 11/6/2009, Note: Timber retaining wall is not shown





- Trees at the 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW entrance into the park appear to be in poor health. Roots may have been damaged from construction activity.
- b. Have tree roots pruned and treated by arborist.
- c. Trees that are dead or dying should be replaced or treated as directed by arborist.



#### Shrubs and Groundcover at West Entrance

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul> <li>Most shrubs and other plantings in the 19<sup>th</sup> Street entrance planters are in poor condition. Soil condition seems to be a loamy clay. Unlike the condition in Soil Test Pit Area 6, the plants in this area do not seem to have access to the moisture and are in decay. Planting beds at the west entrance of the park are full of weeds and grass. Grass adjacent to planters is in poor condition. Filter fabric and debris is exposed around planters.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a. Remove filter fabric, debris, and weeds.</li> <li>b. Remove top 6" of soil in planter boxes and replace with planting soil. Install heavy duty filter fabric. Cut opening in fabric to allow shrubs to grow. Install a 3" thick layer of mulch to the top of timber plank. Shrubs should stay in place, undisturbed.</li> <li>c. Treat area around planter boxes with sod or seed.</li> </ul>

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hazardous.



E. Areas Around Walls And Planters

Pavement between basketball court and retaining wall is missing and

Foundation of previously existing basketball court remains in place,

and is an obstruction to anyone using the court.

Remove top 12" of old basket ball hoop

concrete base at gap between retaining wall and existing court. Provide a continuous expansion joint between wall and subbase.

b. Install basketball court surface with a

concrete foundation.

a.



	imber Retaining	Wall and	Planter
ORSERVA	TION		

OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS	
<ul> <li>Terraced wall was installed by second contractor without plans. Layout was coordinated with DPR.</li> <li>Terraced planting bed at the north ends is eroding and existing filter fabric is falling apart.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a. Remove planting and filter fabric at the north end or the terraced planter and replace with sod or seed. Provide ±18" dia. rounded loose stone edging between grass and planter to separate lawn from planting (see images above). There should be no digging past 12".</li> </ul>	

# F. Fencing



OBSERVATION	INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul> <li>New black fence and previously existing fence together with miscellaneous fence fabric.</li> </ul>	e are poorly tied a. Correctly tie new fence fabric to fence posts.

## David Volkert & Associates Engineering, P.C.

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# **TECHNICAL MEMO 2 - RECOMMENDATIONS**

PROJECT: Kalorama Park (Volkert No. 230405.60)

DATE OF REPORT: June 29, 2012

Prepared by: Oliver Boehm and Bereket Merzi, Volkert

# **Description of Technical Memo 1 Site Investigation Notes - Task 1: Review of Existing Documentation and Task 2: Investigation of the Existing Conditions for Compliance**

On June 6, 2012 Volkert conducted an investigation at the Kalorama Park site. The purpose of our investigation was to evaluate the conditions in the field and determine if further steps are required to complete the construction of the site.

We took samples at 6 locations throughout the site. Five of these were test pits in lawn areas (TP#1 through TP#5) and one was a composite sample taken in the planting bed (TP#6) adjacent to the basketball court. The location for the test pits were determined based on observations during renovation of the park. It is believed that construction procedures during the two previous contracts did not comply with the construction drawings, which resulted in construction debris being buried under the lawn areas.

We also conducted a visual evaluation of the berms (B1, B2, and B3), planting beds, and other constructed elements. Our investigation of the site revealed that various elements of the proposed improvements were not properly constructed or have deteriorated.

A thorough report of the Site Investigation is documented in Technical Memo #1 submitted on June 18, 2012 by Volkert for review.

#### **Task 3: Recommendations for Improvements**

This plan represents the site improvement zones and berms, which are describe in this technical memo. This information will be used to develop biddable plans and specifications for improvements to Kalorama Park.

