



GRADING PERMITS

INFORMATION & CERTIFICATION FORM

WHEN ARE GRADING PERMITS REQUIRED?

In general, a grading permit is required when grading affects a known landslide area or watercourse, involves excavation greater than 2 feet in vertical depth, or when the total volume of cut or fill material is 50 cubic yards or more. Grading is exempt from a permit if it is below these thresholds or if it is associated with excavation, under a valid building permit, of a foundation for a building or structure within five feet of the perimeter foundation. Review Santa Barbara Municipal Code Chapter 22.04 Sections J101-J115 for additional exemptions and details on the City's grading permit requirements.

PREPARATION OF GRADING PLANS

Grading plans must be prepared by a State licensed design professional (e.g., architect, landscape architect, engineer). Licensed professional are required to stamp and sign the grading plans and provide supporting calculations for their design work. Grading plans and specifications must be prepared and signed by a licensed civil engineer when the grading is over 5,000 cubic yards and designated as "engineered grading". If the Building Official has reason to believe that unpermitted grading has occurred, the property owner may be required to provide the City with one or more topographical surveys prepared by a licensed land surveyor.

WHEN IS A "GRADING SELF-CERTIFICATION FORM" REQUIRED?

In order to verify whether or not proposed grading is exempt from a permit, a signed **Grading Self-Certification** (page 2) is required for any grading located on a parcel in the Hillside Design District that results in more than 40 and less than 50 cubic yards of grading in any 5 year period. Grading may not commence on a property if either a self-certification or a grading permit is required unless a copy of the self-certification or grading permit, with approved grading plans, are available at the site.

IS DESIGN REVIEW REQUIRED?

Applications for grading permits that propose grading for either a subdivision, or on a vacant lot, or grading that is not submitted in connection with a building permit for construction, require review of the proposed grading by either the Single Family Design Board or the Architectural Board of Review prior to submittal of a grading permit application. Please see the [Planning Application Guide](#) for more information about design review, or contact a planner at: PlanningCounter@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

GRADING SELF-CERTIFICATION FORM

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Address:

APN:

GRADING DETAILS

Grading – Prior 5 Years (CY)

Cut:

Fill:

Grading – Proposed (CY)

Cut:

Fill:

Grading Balanced on Site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Import:

Export:

Describe Grading Location:

PROPERTY OWNER

Name:

Email:

Phone:

ENGINEER

Name:

License #:

Exp. Date:

Email:

Phone:

Declarations of Property Owner or Authorized Licensed Civil Engineer

I, as the property owner or authorized agent of the owner, declare, under the penalty of perjury, that all of the information above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also declare that the grading proposed to be performed above fully complies with all of the requirements of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code. I understand that the City may, at its own discretion, conduct a grading inspection at the site of my grading project and may require a licensed engineer or surveyor to confirm that amount of grading that occurred is accurately reflected in the estimated quantities of cut and fill shown above. I will hand-deliver, mail, or email this completed form to the City's Building & Safety Division prior to commencing any grading: CDBuildingCode@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

OWNER OR ENGINEER'S SIGNATURE:

Signature

Date

Name (printed)

Title (Owner or Engineer)