



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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G2 STREAMLINES CONSTRUCTION OF ANN ARBOR STUDENT APARTMENTS

Troy, Mich./Oct. 2, 2007 – G2 Consulting Group, a Troy, Mich.-based engineering firm, is providing geotechnical investigations, creative earth retention system design and construction engineering services to help streamline construction of new off-campus student apartments on a very tight site in Ann Arbor, Mich.

The Courtyards student housing will include three four-story buildings with 896 beds adjacent to the University of Michigan's north campus. Fitting all three buildings on the long, narrow site presented several challenges for owner Allen & O'Hara Development Company, architect Neumann/Smith, general contractor TM Marsh and grading contractor Sunset Excavating.

Because access exists only from the property's narrow north and south sides, crews needed to construct an asphalt access road along the length of the lot to reach all parts of the site. Meeting the developer's schedule meant building the access road and the structures at the same time – including a two-story underground parking deck beneath the north building. G2 designed an earth retention system to allow the road to be built alongside the parking deck foundation, so construction of both could proceed simultaneously and safely.

Loose, granular soils on the property's north end, revealed by G2's early geotechnical investigations, posed another issue. With a supplemental geotechnical investigation, G2 pinpointed the location of the poor soils under the north half of the north building's site, but found acceptable soils under the building's south half. G2 reduced the building's foundation construction cost significantly by recommending a foundation design that incorporated two different bearing capacities, using shallower footings bearing on the good soil and deeper footings on the poor soil.

G2's initial contributions and intimate knowledge of the site and construction plans led the development team to enlist G2's construction engineering services for the remainder of the job, says Mark Smolinski, G2 founding principal. A G2 field engineering technician is at the site each day to keep work running smoothly and assure construction operations are performed according to plans and specifications.

G2 (www.g2consultinggroup.com) is a full-service engineering firm providing geotechnical, environmental and construction engineering services to Fortune 500 companies, major utilities, property owners, government agencies and leading architectural, engineering and construction firms across the United States. G2 also has offices in Brighton, Mich., and suburban Chicago, Ill.

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