



**CITY OF MORRO BAY**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
955 Shasta Avenue  
Morro Bay, CA 93442

## **BUILDING DIVISION COMMUNITY MEMO**

**DATE:** April 24, 2023

**TO:** Contractors & Owners

**FROM:** Chad A. Ouimet

**SUBJECT: SLOPING BACKFILL CLARIFICATION**

Work Exempt from Permit:

► Retaining walls that are not over four (4) feet in height measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge **or a sloping backfill.** Retaining walls supporting a surcharge or a sloping backfill exceeding 20%, require calculations and plans signed by a registered civil or structural engineer.

**Sloping backfill that exceeds 1:8 or 12.5% regardless of height will require permits including a site plan and section.**