At the recent public meeting the City Manager reassured the participants that significant resources are available to deal with the material that will need to be excavated for the project. In my experience these costs can escalate considerably once precharacterization testing is conducted, in this case on known contaminated material. Whether there are 50 or 150 underground parking spaces, the costs will be significant.

Excavating below grade on the site will be challenging due to the shallow groundwater and nature of the refuse. I would like to know what type of foundation support is anticipated— a sheeted excavation or possibly a slurry wall. I’m in favor of below grade construction to allow for open space, however the construction details are critical.

Thank you.

Deborah Gevalt