SECTION 31 10 00 - SITE CLEARING

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

A. This Section includes the following:

1. Protecting existing vegetation to remain.
2. Removing existing vegetation.
3. Clearing and grubbing.
4. Stripping and stockpiling topsoil.
5. Removing above- and below-grade site improvements.
6. Disconnecting, removing, and capping or sealing site utilities.
7. Temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures.

1.2 MATERIAL OWNERSHIP

A. Except for stripped topsoil (if so indicated in Construction Documents) or other materials indicated to remain Owner's property, cleared materials shall become Contractor's property and shall be removed from Project site.

1.3 PROJECT CONDITIONS

A. Traffic: Minimize interference with adjoining roads, streets, walks, and other adjacent occupied or used facilities during site-clearing operations.

1. Do not close or obstruct streets, walks, or other adjacent occupied or used facilities without permission from Owner and authorities having jurisdiction.
2. Provide alternate routes around closed or obstructed traffic ways if required by authorities having jurisdiction.

B. Salvable Improvements: Carefully remove items indicated to be salvaged and store on Owner's premises where indicated.

C. Utility Locator Service: Notify utility locator service for area where Project is located before site clearing.

D. Do not install erosion control measures until the regulatory agency having jurisdiction for erosion control has been notified and a preconstruction conference has been held on site.

E. Do not commence site clearing operations until temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures are in place.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS (Not Applicable)

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 PREPARATION

A. Protect and maintain benchmarks and survey control points from disturbance during construction.

B. Locate and place tree protection fences around trees and vegetation to remain or to be relocated. Protection fences to be placed prior to any disturbance of site.

C. Protect existing site improvements to remain from damage during construction.

1. Restore damaged improvements to their original condition, as acceptable to Owner.

3.2 TEMPORARY EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL

A. Provide temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures to prevent soil erosion and discharge of soil-bearing water runoff or airborne dust to adjacent properties and walkways, according to requirements of authorities having jurisdiction and Sediment and Erosion Control drawings.

B. Protect existing slopes from disturbance and erosion. Promptly repair and stabilize any disturbed areas on existing slopes.

C. Inspect, repair, and maintain erosion and sedimentation control measures during construction as specified in Erosion Control Plans until permanent vegetation has been established.

D. Where installed sediment and erosion control devices do not provide adequate performance, install supplemental sediment and erosion control measures as directed by authorities having jurisdiction to prevent soil erosion and discharge of soil-bearing water runoff or airborne dust to adjacent properties.

E. Remove erosion and sedimentation controls and restore and stabilize areas disturbed during removal as specified on Erosion Control Plans or approved by regulatory agency.

3.3 TREE PROTECTION

A. Erect and maintain temporary fencing around tree protection zones before starting site clearing. Remove fence when construction is complete.

1. Do not store construction materials, debris, or excavated material within fenced area.
2. Do not permit vehicles, equipment, or foot traffic within fenced area.
3. Maintain fenced area free of weeds and trash.

B. Do not excavate within tree protection zones, unless otherwise indicated.

C. Where excavation for new construction is required within tree protection zones, hand clear and excavate to minimize damage to root systems. Use narrow-tine spading forks, comb soil to expose roots, and cleanly cut roots as close to excavation as possible.

1. Cover exposed roots with burlap and water regularly.
2. Temporarily support and protect roots from damage until they are permanently redirected and covered with soil.
3. Coat cut faces of roots more than 1-1/2 inches in diameter with an emulsified asphalt or other approved coating formulated for use on damaged plant tissues.
4. Backfill with soil as soon as possible.

D. Repair or replace trees and vegetation indicated to remain that are damaged by construction operations, in a manner approved by Architect.

1. Employ an arborist, licensed in jurisdiction where Project is located, to submit details of proposed repairs and to repair damage to trees and shrubs.
2. Replace trees that cannot be repaired and restored to full-growth status, as determined by Architect.

3.4 UTILITIES

A. Verify the existence, location, and depth of all buried utilities (electrical, mechanical, water, sewer, telecommunication, gas, etc.) within the construction area prior to any excavation. Existing utilities shown on drawings are illustrated for information purposes only. The omission of, or inclusion of, utility locations on the drawings is not to be considered as the non-existence or definite location of existing underground utilities.

B. Prior to construction, meet with all utility owners whose facilities will be affected to determine utility locations and arrange for utility relocations, if necessary to accommodate new construction.

C. Protect all existing utilities from damage.

D. Locate, identify, disconnect, and seal or cap off utilities indicated to be removed.

1. Arrange with utility companies to shut off indicated utilities.

E. Do not interrupt utilities serving facilities occupied by Owner or others unless permitted under the following conditions and then only after arranging to provide temporary utility services according to requirements indicated:

1. Notify Architect not less than two days in advance of proposed utility interruptions.
2. Do not proceed with utility interruptions without Architect's written permission.
3. Notify Utility Company.

F. Excavate for and remove underground utilities indicated to be removed.

3.5 CLEARING AND GRUBBING

A. Remove all trees and tree stumps, shrubs, grass and other vegetation, and improvements or obstructions, unless designated to remain, together with the bulk of the roots.

B. Carefully and cleanly cut roots and branches of trees indicated to be left standing, where such roots and branches obstruct new construction.

C. Remove all surface rocks and all stumps, roots and other vegetation and all debris within the limit of construction.

D. Fill depression caused by clearing and grubbing operations with satisfactory soil material unless further excavation or earthwork is indicated.

1. Place fill material in horizontal layers not exceeding a loose depth of 8 inches, and compact each layer to a density equal to adjacent original ground.

3.6 TOPSOIL STRIPPING

A. Remove sod and grass before stripping topsoil.

B. Strip topsoil to whatever depths are encountered in a manner to prevent intermingling with underlying subsoil or waste materials.

C. If indicated on plans or authorized by Owner, stockpile topsoil materials away from edge of excavations without intermixing with subsoil. Grade and shape stockpiles to drain surface water. Cover to prevent erosion and windblown dust.

D. All topsoil not indicated to remain on site by drawings or Owner will be hauled from site and legally disposed of.

3.7 SITE IMPROVEMENTS

A. Remove existing above- and below-grade improvements as indicated and as necessary to facilitate new construction.

B. All existing asphalt pavement shall be saw-cut at the limit of demolition where drawings show tie-ins. Saw-cut joint shall be one foot from the existing edge of pavement, minimum.

C. All existing concrete pavement, sidewalk and/or curb and gutter shall be removed to the nearest existing control joint beyond the limit of demolition shown on the drawings. Where no existing control joints are present within five feet of the limit of demolition, concrete pavements shall be saw-cut.

3.8 DISPOSAL

A. Disposal: Remove surplus soil material, unsuitable topsoil, obstructions, demolished materials, and waste materials including trash and debris, and legally dispose of them off Owner's property.

END OF SECTION