



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jeff Coyle

(210) 826-8899

(210) 535-9015

jeffc@kgbtexas.com

CENTEX TO BEGIN SITE WORK FOR NEW RETAINING WALL

City of San Antonio issues permit to allow Centex to begin preparatory work in Rivermist

SAN ANTONIO, June 7, 2010 – Centex has received approval from the City of San Antonio and the Rivermist HOA to immediately begin the preparatory work that will ready the area for the new multi-million dollar pier panel wall system in Rivermist. The site work is anticipated to take approximately three weeks. Construction on the wall itself is pending final approval of the engineering design plan submitted to the City and HOA May 7. Completion of the wall is expected to take six months.

“We owe it to our homeowners to build the new wall as quickly as possible, and this is a big step in the right direction,” said Laurin Darnell, Vice President of Centex’s San Antonio division. “Centex remains committed to designing and building the permanent solution for the Rivermist communities.”

The site work will include the following:

- The construction of a temporary access road from Arbor Mesa to the work area that will allow equipment access to the site.
- Construction of a “bench” parallel to the existing wall to create access and a working platform for construction equipment.
- Repair to the storm drain pipe damaged during the initial slope failure. Repairing this pipe will eliminate the need to pump the storm drain on Treewell Glen during every rain event.
- The installation of “tie-backs” which will test the frictional resistance of the soil.

Meanwhile, Centex continues to work with City and HOA engineers on the final design and permit for the new retaining wall. Centex has provided additional information that was requested by the City and HOA at a May 27 meeting.

The plans were produced by Craig Olden, Inc., a Texas-based industry leader with 35 years experience in the design and construction of retention systems, and have been peer reviewed by a total of six third-party expert teams. In addition to the City and HOA’s engineers, the plans were peer reviewed by the following:

- **Terracon Consultants, Inc.**, a geotechnical engineering firm with offices in San Antonio retained by Centex.
- **Reed Engineering Group**, a geotechnical engineering firm based in Dallas retained by Craig Olden, Inc.

- **Stephen G. Wright, Ph.D**, an expert in geotechnical engineering, soil mechanics and slope stability at The University of Texas at Austin's (UT) Cockrell School of Engineering retained by Terracon.
- **Timothy D. Stark, Ph.D**, an expert in soil mechanics, foundation engineering and the stability of natural and manmade slopes at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign retained by Terracon.

Dr. Wright provided the primary oversight and guidance for the methodology utilized to design the new wall. His extensive background includes [analyzing the failure of floodwalls in New Orleans](#) after Hurricane Katrina.

“During my professional career, I have been involved in numerous slope and retaining wall failures,” said Dr. Wright. “I have been impressed with the direction that Centex is taking in retaining experienced engineers and contractors to design and construct the new pier-panel retaining wall. From my perspective, Centex has placed technical correctness over costs.”

A video animation of the proposed pier-panel wall system may be viewed at www.rivermistinfo.com.

###