

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

<b>PROJECT:</b>	Ballard High School	
<b>LOCATION:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> Avenue NW and 65 <sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle, Washington	
<b>DESIGN TEAM:</b>	<i>Architect:</i>	Mahlum & Nordfors McKinley Gordon
	<i>Structural Engineer:</i>	Martens Chan Consulting Engineers
	<i>Geotechnical Engineer:</i>	Landau Associates, Inc.
	<i>Owner:</i>	The Seattle Public Schools
	<i>Program Manager:</i>	Heery International, Inc.
<b>CONTRACTOR:</b>	Kiewit Construction Company	



### DESCRIPTION:

The geotechnical investigation revealed variable uncontrolled fills present throughout the Ballard High School site resulting from previous site grading activities during the original construction of the school. The fills varied up to about 14' in thickness and consisted of very loose sandy silt. Competent glacial soils were present beneath the poorly compacted fills.

To provide uniform foundation support for the new high school, the geotechnical engineer recommended overexcavation of the unsuitable fill to the glacial soils and replacement with crushed rock backfill or controlled density fill. The conventional solution was costly, created scheduling difficulties, and had adverse impacts on the neighborhood (trucking and traffic congestion);

The Geopier® System was selected by Heery International and the design team as a bid alternate to the overexcavation. The approach was selected and reduced the final bid by about \$350,000 and resolved the scheduling difficulties.