

Definitions of "existing grade"

"the grade before it is modified by moving earth, adding or removing fill, or installing a berm, retaining wall or architectural or landscape feature, as determined by reference to an on-ground survey, city approved topographic map, or other information approved by the director." [City of Austin]

"the elevation of the ground surface before any excavation, filling or other grading activity takes place"

"the natural topography of the land prior to construction"

"the natural surface contour of the lot prior to construction" [various sources cited by Insider Law]

"the existing natural ground elevation prior to any cut/fill or disturbance of soil" [City of Alamo Heights]