



**City of Sonora**  
**Planning Commission**  
**Design Review Application**

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Property Involved** \_\_\_\_\_ **APN:** \_\_\_\_\_

Present Use \_\_\_\_\_ Present Buildings \_\_\_\_\_

Request \_\_\_\_\_

**PREREQUISITES BEFORE APPLICATION CAN BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE:**

1. Completion of application form and payment of fees of **\$616.00**
2. Submittal of fifteen (15) copies of exterior elevations to include all sides of development; roof details indicating location and size of mechanical equipment; indication of colors and materials to be used; the size and location of the parcel; placement of existing and proposed structures with dimensions from property lines and other structures; parking area; walkways and driveways; and landscaping.
3. Letter of authorization from the property owner if applicant is not the owner.
4. One (1) copy of legal description of property deed records.
5. One (1) copy of reduced site and building elevations plan.
6. Other information may be required upon review by the Planning Department.

I certify that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY USE ONLY**

**Received By** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_ **Account # 001-2000-41510**

## DESIGN REVIEW

**PURPOSE:** In order to preserve the historic charm of the City of Sonora, and protect and enhance the historic “gold rush” architecture of 1849-1880, which is economically important to the historic design review areas that have been established in the City, Design review encompasses all C (commercial zones) within the City. The historic design review area is the downtown area generally bounded by Elkin, Church, Stewart and Green Streets.

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW AREA CRITERIA:** When considering the approval of plans for a building which is itself a historic structure or is adjacent to a historic structure, the Design Review Committee (the Planning Commission) will consider its conformity with the features found either on the original building or on those typical of the period in which the structure was constructed. When considering plans for new construction, the Committee will consider their conformance to features typical of the “gold rush” architecture and new structure which is adjacent to a historic building shall be designed to be compatible with the neighboring buildings. Examples of buildings from that period are listed within the Sonora Municipal Code.

**DESIGN REVIEW CRITERIA:** When considering new construction or exterior changes to existing structures outside of the historic design review area, the Committee will take into consideration the compatibility of the proposed design with those already existing in the neighborhood, the appropriate and fitting use of construction materials, signs, and landscaping, parking and ingress and egress. All of these factors shall be related to the setting or established character of the surroundings.

**PROCESS:** Each applicant for a building permit which would authorize new construction or exterior alterations, additions or modifications, shall submit fifteen (15) copies of complete required submittals and other information and data as may be required, along with a completed application and fee as set by the application for completeness and advise the applicant of date of the Planning Commission action. The Planning Commission meets on the second Monday of each month (if that day is a holiday, the meeting will be held on Tuesday). The applicant will receive, by mail, a copy of the agenda and any staff reports prepared.

At the Planning Commission meeting, the Chairman will open public hearing and ask staff to present its report. The Chairman will then call for those in favor of the request, then those opposed to the request. After receiving all public input, the hearing is closed and the Planning Commission will make its decision.

**APPEALS:** After the Planning Commission’s decision on any item, there is a required ten (10) day appeal period to allow the applicant or interested party to appeal to the City Council. After the appeal period has passed, the applicant may obtain any further permits or licenses that may be required by the City.

## **City of Sonora Indemnification Agreement**

Pursuant to Sonora Municipal Code Chapter 17.69 (Ordinance 776, Effective November 16, 2007); authorized applicant (or authorized agent), property owner, their successors and assigns, hereby agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Sonora, its officers, attorneys, agents, and employees:

- I. From any claims, actions, proceedings or liability of any nature (collectively referred to as proceeding) brought against the city or its officers, attorneys, agents or employees, to attack, set aside, void, or annul any action or decision by city staff, any city planning or advisory agency, any city appeal board, the Sonora City Council, Sonora Planning Commission or other city entity including, but not limited to, any action or decision approving any development or planning permit, license, approval, authorization, general plan amendment, zoning amendment, approvals or certifications under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and/or any mitigation monitoring program; but excluding any subdivision approval governed by Government Code Section 66474.9. This indemnification shall include damages, fees and/or costs awarded against the city, if any, and cost of suit, attorney's fees, and other costs, liabilities and expenses incurred in connection with such proceeding whether incurred by applicant, the city, and/or the parties initiating or bringing the proceeding; and

From any proceeding seeking damages for property damage or personal injuries resulting from development authorized by the city pursuant to this application; and

For all costs incurred in additional investigation and/or study of, or for supplementing, preparing, redrafting, revising or amending any document (e.g., a negative declaration, EIR, specific plan or general plan amendment), if made necessary by the proceeding and if applicant desires to pursue securing these approvals, after initiation of such proceeding, which are condition on the approval of such documents; and

- II. Applicant (or authorized agent), property owner, their successors and assigns, hereby agree to indemnify the City of Sonora for all of the city's costs, fees, and damages which the city incurs in enforcing the indemnification provisions set forth herein.
- III. In the event of a proceeding, the city retains the right to approve counsel to defend the city, all significant decisions concerning the manner in which the defense is conducted, and any and all settlements, which approval shall not be reasonably withheld. The city has the right not to participate in the defense, except that the city agrees to cooperate with the applicant in the defense of the proceeding. If the city chooses its own counsel to defend the city, the fees and

expenses of the counsel selected by the city shall be paid by the city.  
Notwithstanding the above, if the city attorney's office participates in the defense,  
all city attorney fees and costs shall be paid by the applicant.

**Property Owner:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Authorized Applicant:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Authorized Agent:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date