



Community Development Department
1 Plaza, PO Box 667
Patterson, CA 95363
209.895.8020
email: planning@pattersonca.gov
www.pattersonca.gov

SIMILAR USE DETERMINATION

This information is provided as a guide to assist you in the preparation of the application for a **Similar Use Determination**. It is also intended to explain the process by which the City analyzes and acts upon the application.

What is Similar Use Determination?

A Similar Use Determination is when a specific use is not listed and it is unclear whether the use is permitted, permitted with a use permit, or not permitted, the similar use determination allows the director to determine whether or not a proposed use is similar to a listed use and whether it may be permitted or permitted with a use permit in a particular zoning district. A similar use determination is required when a use is not specifically listed in the code but may be permitted if it is determined to be similar in nature to a use that is permitted or permitted with a use permit.

Application Submittal

An application for a Similar Use Determination shall be filed by the property owner or their representative/agent on forms prescribed for this purpose. The application shall be submitted to the Planning Department, 1 Plaza (P.O. Box 667), Patterson, CA 95363.

Processing the Application

The processing time for a completed application for a Similar Use Determination varies depending on the complexity of the application, the Planning Director shall prepare a Similar Use Determination. The issuance of a Similar Use Determination is an administrative function of the Planning Director, and no public hearing or notice is required.

Note: If the application is not complete within thirty (30) days of receipt the City of Patterson Planning Department will deem the application incomplete, request additional information or return the application and application fee(s) to the applicant.



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Procedure

Similar Use Determination Review:

1. Pre-Application Conference with Planning Department Staff (Optional).
2. Submit Application.
3. Staff Review Application for Completeness.
4. Staff Evaluation of Application.
5. Staff Will Prepare a Determination.

Building Permits

Application for a Similar Use Determination does not constitute approval for a use or an application for a building permit. Separate applications may be required prior to any construction or commencement of use.

Required Findings

In order to grant approval of a Similar Use Determination application, the Planning Director or authorized staff must find the following:

- The characteristics of and activities associated with the proposed use are equivalent to one or more of the listed uses and will not involve a higher level of activity, environmental impact, or population density than the uses listed in the zoning district.
- The proposed use will be consistent with the purposes of the applicable zoning district.
- The proposed use will be consistent with the general, any applicable specific plan, and the development code.

Application Contents

- Statement of relationship of the Similar Use Determination to the general plan and the zoning ordinance.
- Statement regarding how the proposed use meets the required findings.
- APPLICATION FEE \$187.00**

Note: Should your project require an environmental review, the applicant is responsible for the environmental filing fees (effective 1-1-2026) as follows:

- Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)* \$3043.75
 - Environmental Impact Report (EIR)* \$4227.50
 - Environmental Document Pursuant to a Certified Regulatory Program \$1437.25
 - County Clerk Processing Fee \$57.00
- (*Department of Fish and Game Fees)



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Note: At least one copy of all the maps, site plans, floor plans, etc., must be provided as an 8.5 x 11" or 11" x 17" reproducible copy.



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Application for Similar Use Determination

Project #: _____

Name of Project / Development

Applicant Name

Mailing Address/City/State/Zip

Phone Number

Email

Property Owner

Mailing Address/City/State/Zip

Phone Number

Email

Property Description / Location:

Street Address:

Assessor's Parcel Number(s) APN:

SIGNATURES:

The above information as well as the plans and materials submitted herewith in support of this application are, to the best of my/our knowledge, true and correct.

APPLICANT: _____ **DATE:** _____

OWNER: _____ **DATE:** _____



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Environmental Information Form

This information is provided as a guide to assist you in the preparation of the **Environmental Information Form**. It is also intended to explain the process by which the City analyzes and acts upon the form.

The State of California requires that most development projects submitted to the City of Patterson undergo some level of review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA is a state law that requires an analysis and public report on the potential environmental effects of any project that is conducted or approved by the City. The Environmental Information Form is used to determine whether a project needs to be reviewed under the CEQA regulations. The City of Patterson is responsible for reviewing the project to determine whether it is exempt from CEQA review.

If CEQA review is required, three types of reports are typically prepared for projects: 1) CEQA Exemption, 2) a Negative Declaration, or 3) an Environmental Impact Report. The majority of projects are either Exempt or Negative Declarations. Planning Staff will let you know what type of documentation is required based upon the type of project that is being proposed, the characteristics of the property, and other factors that are spelled out in State CEQA regulations.

Application Submittal

The Environmental Information Form shall be filed by the property owner or their representative agent on forms prescribed for this purpose. The application shall be submitted to the Planning Department, 1 Plaza (P.O. Box 667), Patterson, CA 95363.

Additional information may be required by the Planning Director during the review of the application.



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Number of Units, Unit Size, Range of Sale Prices/Rents, and Type of Household Size expected (Residential Only)

Type of Development (Regional, City or Neighborhood), Square Footage of Sales Area and Loading facilities (Commercial Only)

Type, Number of Employees per Shift and Number of Loading Facilities (Industrial Only)

Major Function Employees per Shift, Occupancy, Loading Facilities, Community Benefit of Project (Institutional Only)

Are the following items Applicable to the project or its effects? Please explain on additional sheets all items checked 'Yes'.

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Inconsistent with the City of Patterson's General Plan. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Affect the use of a recreation area or area of important aesthetic value. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Affect the functioning of an established community/neighborhood. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Displace community/neighborhood residence. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Affect unique natural or man-made features in the project area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significantly affect the potential use, extraction or conservation of a scarce natural resource |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significantly affect a historical or archeological site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Serve as wildlife habitat for rare/endangered plant or animal species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Affect fish, wildlife or plant life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Result in soil erosion of agricultural land |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Change the pattern, scale, or character of the general area of the project |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Require certification, authorization or issuance of a permit by a Local, State, or Federal environmental control agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Require facilities to be constructed in a flood plain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Require facilities to be constructed on land with greater than a 15% slope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Require constructing facilities on an active geologic fault |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Generate significant amounts of dust or noise (in either the construction or operational stages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Generate significant amounts of solid waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Substantially change existing noise or vibration levels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Endanger the quality of the regional air or water resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cause a significant change in the hydrology of the area |



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- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | One in a series of foreseeable actions that may ultimately have an impact on the environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Involve the application, use or disposal of potentially hazardous waste |

Certification: I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct the best of my knowledge and belief. **If any of the facts represented here change it is my responsibility to inform the City of Patterson.**

Applicant: _____ Date: _____