

Meeting Date: 10/12/21

Agenda Item: 7

# CITY OF TEMPE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMISSION

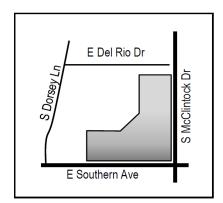
**ACTION:** Request a Use Permit to allow a massage establishment for **SONORAN SERENITY SPA**, located at 1628 East Southern Avenue, Suite 13.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff – Approve, subject to conditions

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Sonoran Serenity SPA (PL210255) is requesting a Use Permit to allow a massage establishment in an existing commercial center within the PCC-2, Planned Commercial Center Neighborhood Zoning District. The request includes the following:

ZUP210068 Use Permit to allow the expansion of an existing massage establishment.



Property Owner Southern Palms Station, LLC

Applicant Kiera Stroup, Sonoran Serenity Spa

Zoning District PCC-2

Suite Area 3,200 s.f.

Vehicle Parking No change in demand

Bicycle Parking No change in demand

Hours of Operation Monday – Friday 9am – 9pm

Saturday – 9am – 6pm

Sunday – 10am – 6pm

**ATTACHMENTS:** Development Project File

**STAFF CONTACT(S):** Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner I (480) 350-8359

Department Director: Shelly Seyler, Interim Community Development Director

Legal review by: N/A

Prepared by: Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner

Reviewed by: Ryan Levesque, Deputy Director, Community Development Department, Planning Division

### **COMMENTS**

The applicant is proposing a new massage establishment within an existing commercial building. The total suite area is 3,200 square feet. As the operations is a service use, and the previous tenant was retail, the overall proposed use will not increase the parking demand for this site.

**PUBLIC INPUT** 

To date, staff has received two (2) phone calls in opposition to this request. The first was from a residential neighbor who did not provide his address or neighborhood location. The caller was generally opposed to "that type of use" in a neighborhood-friendly shopping center. The second caller voiced opposition as she operates a similar business within the center and felt this request should be denied as it holds the potential to complete with her business.

### **POLICE INPUT**

Tempe PD informed staff that there were no concerns regarding this request. The applicant has an active massage license with no past issues.

### **USE PERMIT**

The proposed use requires a Use Permit to allow a massage establishment within the PCC-2, Planned Commercial Center General Zoning District.

Section 6-308 E Approval criteria for Use Permit (*in italics*):

- 1. Any significant increase in vehicular or pedestrian traffic; the proposed massage use is a service business not projected to attract significant increases in traffic.
- 2. Nuisance arising from the emission of odor, dust, gas, noise, vibration, smoke, heat or glare at a level exceeding that of ambient conditions; the massage business is conducted indoors and is not expected to generate a nuisance exceeding the ambient conditions.
- 3. Contribution to the deterioration of the neighborhood or to the downgrading of property values, which is in conflict with the goals, objectives or policies for rehabilitation, redevelopment or conservation as set forth in the city's adopted plans or General Plan; massage establishments are permitted within the PCC-2 zoning district subject to a Use Permit.
- 4. *Compatibility with existing surrounding structures and uses;* the proposed location is within a commercial center with other service and commercial uses occupying the other suites.
- 5. Adequate control of disruptive behavior both inside and outside the premises which may create a nuisance to the surrounding area or general public; the applicant has an existing massage license with no prior issues and Tempe PD has no concerns with the request.

### **REASONS FOR APPROVAL:**

Based on the information provided by the applicant, the public input received, and the above analysis staff supports approval of the requested Use Permit. This request meets the required criteria and will conform to the conditions.

SHOULD AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BE TAKEN ON THIS REQUEST, THE FOLLOWING NUMBERED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL SHALL APPLY, BUT MAY BE AMENDED BY THE DECISION-MAKING BODY.

### CONDITION(S) OF APPROVAL: (Non-standard conditions are identified in bold)

EACH NUMBERED ITEM IS A CONDITION OF APPROVAL. THE DECISION-MAKING BODY MAY MODIFY, DELETE OR ADD TO THESE CONDITIONS.

- 1. The Use Permit is valid only after a Building Permit has been obtained, the required inspections have been completed and a Final Inspection has been passed. As part of the Building Permit process, on-site storm water retention may be required to be verified or accomplished on this Site.
- 2. The Use Permit is valid for the plans as submitted within this application. Any additions or modifications may be submitted for review during the building plan check process

### **CODE/ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

THE BULLETED ITEMS REFER TO EXISTING CODE OR ORDINANCES THAT PLANNING STAFF OBSERVES ARE PERTINENT TO THIS CASE. THE BULLET ITEMS ARE INCLUDED TO ALERT THE DESIGN TEAM AND ASSIST IN OBTAINING A BUILDING PERMIT AND ARE NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST.

### **USE PERMIT:**

- The Use Permit is valid for The Sonoran Serenity Spa and may be transferable to successors in interest through an administrative review with the Community Development Director, or designee.
- The Use Permit approval shall be void if the use is not commenced or if an application for a building permit has not been submitted, whichever is applicable, within twelve (12) months after the Use Permit is granted or within the time stipulated by the decision-making body.
- The decision-making body, upon finding that the applicant has not taken corrective actions to resolve issues
  related to the permit/approval and that a continuation of the permit/approval is not in the interest of the
  public health, safety and general welfare, can revoke the permit/approval after providing written notice of its
  intentions to the holder of the permit.
- Specific requirements of the Zoning and Development Code (ZDC) are not listed as a condition of
  approval but will apply to any application. To avoid unnecessary review time and reduce the potential for
  multiple plan check submittals, become familiar with the ZDC. Access the ZDC through
  <a href="http://www.tempe.gov/zoning">http://www.tempe.gov/zoning</a> or purchase from Development Services.
- All business signs shall receive a Sign Permit. Contact sign Mike Scarpitta at 480-350-8435.
- Any intensification or expansion of use shall require a new Use Permit.
- All required permits and clearances shall be obtained from the Audit and Licensing Division of the City of Tempe prior to the Use Permit becoming effective.
- All required Federal, State, County, and Municipal permits, licenses, and clearances shall be obtained, or the Use Permit is void.

### **HISTORY & FACTS:**

None pertinent to this case.

### **ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT CODE REFERENCE:**

Section 3-202 Permitted Uses in Commercial and Mixed-Use Districts Section 4-203 Development Standards for Commercial and Mixed-Use Districts Section 6-308 Use Permit



## **DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FILE**

## for SONORAN SERENITY SPA (PL210255)

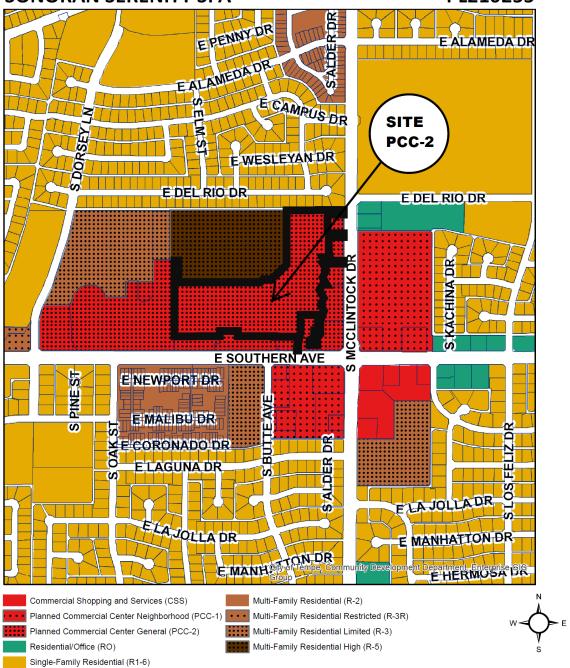
## **ATTACHMENTS**:

- 1. Location Map
- 2. Aerial
- 3.- 4. Letter of Explanation
- 5. Site Plan



### **SONORAN SERENITY SPA**

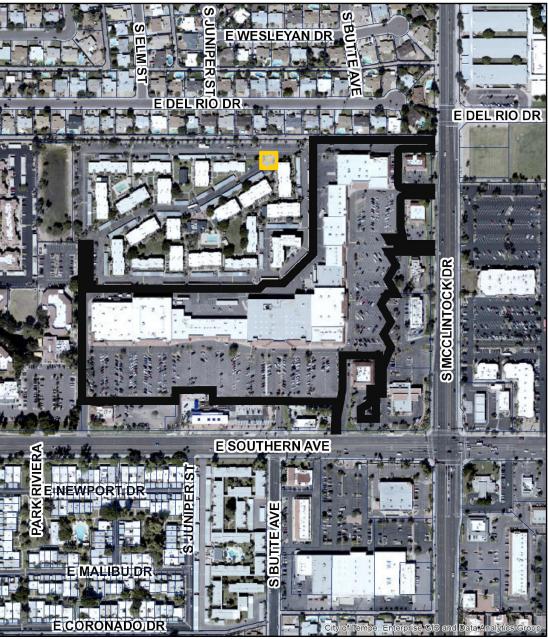
### PL210255





## **SONORAN SERENITY SPA**

PL210255



**Aerial Map** 





S3 Spa LLC DBA Sonoran Serenity Spa 4515 S Lakeshore Drive Suite 102 Tempe, AZ 85282 August 18, 2021

City of Tempe Community Development Planning 31 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street Tempe, AZ 85281

### To whom it may concern:

This letter of explanation is for the massage establishment use permit application that we are submitting on behalf of our business, S3 Spa LLC DBA Sonoran Serenity Spa, a day spa located at 4515 S Lakeshore Drive, Suite 102, Tempe, 85282, offering premium skincare, massage therapy, Reiki, hypnotherapy, coaching and other wellness modalities. We have been in business since March 2014 and currently employ 12 full and part-time employees and 0 contractors as either front desk staff, Arizona licensed estheticians, massage therapists and/or wellness professionals. Sonoran Serenity Spa is currently licensed as an aesthetics business through the Arizona State Board of Cosmetology under salon license #SAES19941 and a massage facility through the City of Tempe, # 215008. We are applying for this use permit because our business is expanding and we are relocating to a larger space at 1628 E Southern Avenue, Suite 13, Tempe, 85282.

Treatments and services provided are as follows:

- Facials
- Corrective facial treatments including chemical peels and dermaplaning
- Body Treatments including body scrubs, wraps, back facials and chemical peels
- Waxing
- Massage Therapy
- Cupping
- Polarity
- Craniosacral
- Hypnotherapy
- Coaching
- Aromatherapy

Owner Kiera Stroup is a licensed esthetician and licensed massage therapist. See below for the license numbers:

### Kiera Stroup

• Arizona State Board of Cosmetology Aesthetics License #31400054



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Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy License #MT-20602

Massage services are provided for therapeutic benefits. Massage therapy is designed to reduce tension in muscle tissue, aiding in the release of myofascial folds, commonly known as knots, and to heal soft tissue injury. Massage therapy is often prescribed by physicians and chiropractors to assist in healing injuries obtained in accidents or through sports or exercise. The Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy does not license establishments, only individuals.

Currently there are 12 employees of the business at this time, however, with this move, it is our intent to hire additional employees in the new, bigger location. The maximum number of clients is one per employee at a time which will not cause any significant pedestrian or vehicular traffic increases to adjacent areas. There is ample parking to accommodate clients. The clients of our business are interested in the therapeutic and relaxing values of the services that we provide. Clients must be 18 years of age or 16 years of age, with parental consent, to receive massage therapy. Younger clients may enjoy aesthetic services offered only if they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.

There will be no disruptive behavior to the general public due to the nature of the day spa business. The environment is extremely quiet. There will be no external structural changes to the building therefore compatibility with existing surrounding structures will not be an issue.

Sonoran Serenity Spa's current hours of operation are as follows:

- Monday Friday, 9:00 am 9:00pm
- Saturday, 9am 6pm
- Sunday, 11:00am 6:00pm

If there are any additional questions regarding Sonoran Serenity Spa, we can be contacted at 480-772-3297.

Sincerely,

Kiera L Stroup, LE, LMT, RMT, CHt

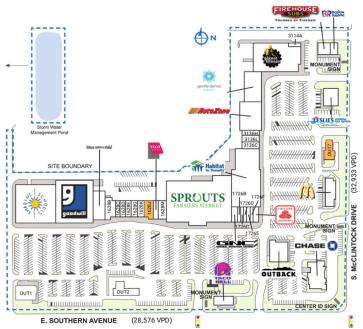
Owner, S3 Spa LLC DBA Sonoran Serenity Spa



### SOUTHERN PALMS

1706 East Southern Avenue | Tempe, AZ 85282





DISCLAIMER - This site plan is for general information purposes only and is not intended to constitute representations and warranties by Landlord as to the ownership of the real property depicted herein or the identity or nature of any occupants thereof.





