



Town of Erie Historic Preservation Advisory Board Application

All advisory board and commission members will be expected to support the priorities and work plan set forth by the Town Council.

This board meets the **fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without a leave of absence approved by majority of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board could be grounds for dismissal.

Full Name	Alex Wicks
Are you an Erie resident?	Yes
Are you under the age of eighteen (18)?	No
Home Address	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Primary Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Employer	Zinnia
Job Title/Occupation	Senior Software Engineering Manager
Have you ever been employed by the Town of Erie?	No
Do you work for or own a company that does business with the Town of Erie?	No
What is your highest level of education completed?	Bachelors Degree
Are you currently serving on a board?	Yes
Which board are you serving on?	This one, HPAB

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Are you applying for more than one board? No

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This board meets the fourth **Monday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Only three excused absences are allowed per year.

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**Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission and what specific talents or expertise do you bring if appointed?**

I'm interested in continuing to help progress the preservation of historic properties in Erie and educating residents about the importance of Erie's rich history. I bring many years of experience in people and project management, as well as a passion for and knowledge of history.

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**Have you served on another board/commission in an advisory capacity? If so, please describe the board and what made serving in that capacity a good experience? What were the major concerns or issues?**

Yes, I previously served as a member of a cross-functional board that set the strategic direction for automated testing at a large technology company. We were responsible for evaluating tooling, identifying gaps in our current processes, and consulting on personnel decisions. These were critical decisions as automated testing impacted nearly every team, requiring us to balance reliability, developer experience, and delivery speed. Major concerns included determining the need for additional specialized hires while operating within tight budget constraints. We had to prioritize investments carefully and make a clear business case for expanding the team without slowing delivery. By grounding decisions in data and aligning investments to measurable quality improvements, we strengthened our testing strategy while remaining fiscally responsible. Through this experience I was able to develop my organizational skills while learning more about other functional areas of the organization.

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**Please describe a situation where you were working with a small group and disagreed with the direction of the project, what did you do? What was the result?**

In my role as a software engineer, I was part of a small leadership group tasked with modernizing a core internal platform. I disagreed with a proposal to fully rewrite a system from scratch, due to delivery risk and resource constraints. Rather than simply opposing the idea, I gathered data on system performance and projected timelines, and proposed a phased modernization approach. I then facilitated a discussion to evaluate each option against shared criteria such as risk, customer impact, cost, and time to value. The group ultimately aligned on a hybrid strategy that allowed us to incrementally replace high-risk components while continuing feature delivery. As a result, we improved reliability early, reduced operational risk, and maintained steady product momentum.

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**If you were appointed, what goals would you like to see accomplished on this board or commission?**

I'd like to continue our work of creating a historic district for downtown Erie, to better preserve the look and feel of old town. I'd like the board to continue using funds to identify and protect important parts of the town, and keep improving our outreach for the purpose of educating residents on the importance of respecting our history.

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**Are you aware of the time commitment, and do you have the personal time to devote to this board or commission?**

Yes and yes.

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**Upload resume and additional documents (optional)**



Alex Wicks Resume.pdf

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**Please read and agree with the following statement:**

I certify that the facts and statements contained in this Board and Commission Application are true and correct.

I further understand that false statements shall be sufficient cause for rejection of this application.

I further certify that I have not been convicted of a felony under the laws of the State of Colorado or in another jurisdiction.

I understand that falsification, omission or misrepresentation will result in a rejection of this application. Any falsification, omission or representation is evidence of perjury in the second degree.

If I become a board or commission member with the Town, this form is valid for the period of my term with the Town and the crime records may be updated periodically at the discretion of the Town.

I understand that this application is considered a public record and subject to the Colorado Open Records Act.

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I Agree Yes

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All board and commission members must follow the rules and regulations in the Erie Municipal Code as well as the Town's policies related to harassment, anti-violence, and technology use. Yes

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Acknowledgement Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, followed by a vertical line and a dot.

# Alex Wicks

engineer & servant leader

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/alexwicks/>

## Summary

Experienced engineering leader with a track record of building high-performing teams, delivering impactful products, and driving cross-functional collaboration. Proven success in scaling applications, improving developer experience, and fostering inclusive team cultures. Passionate about coaching, sustainable engineering practices, and creating environments where engineers thrive.

## Experience

### Senior Engineering Manager | Zinnia

2024 - Current

- Led North American front-end engineering teams to deliver 5 major global web applications for Zinnia Live.
- Introduced modern tooling and practices in AI integration, accessibility, and cloud-based logging, raising team velocity and product quality.
- Advocated for technical excellence while balancing roadmap delivery and cross-functional alignment.

### Engineering Leader | BioRender

2023 - 2024

- Lead product delivery teams delivering core features to support scientific illustration; launched graphing as a new product line to scientists around the globe.
- Rebuilt the hiring and interview process to support scale during rapid growth.

### Senior Engineering Manager | Ada Support, Inc

2022 - 2023

- Leader of two full-stack teams with ownership of the dashboard builder application and the front end design system.
- Drove the successful delivery of voice integration into Ada's conversational AI platform.

### Senior Engineering Manager | Twilio, Denver

2020 - 2022

- Hired and built two teams: Data Pipelines (backend infra) and User Management (full-stack).
- Led cross-org efforts to help launch Twilio Flex, coordinating work across time zones and engineering orgs.
- Spearheaded a company-wide initiative to modernize testing practices and increase CI confidence.

## **Engineering Manager** | SendGrid, Denver

2016 - 2020

- Managed 3 teams (16+ engineers) across Accounts, Billing, and Growth, delivering critical business infrastructure.
- Led a successful re-architecture of accounts and billing platforms, reducing maintenance burden and increasing stability.
- Acted as both people manager and technical lead for strategic cross-team efforts.

Technologies: JavaScript, TypeScript, React, AWS, Node.js

## **Technical Lead** | Markit Digital, Boulder

2010 - 2016

- Mentored technical leads and managed complex financial products for Fortune 500 clients.
- Hands-on leadership with full-stack technologies, including .NET and modern JavaScript.

Technologies Used: C#, ASP.NET MVC, JavaScript

## **Education**

### **Bachelor of Science - Web Development** | Illinois State University, Normal IL

Graduated May 2010