



City of El Cajon

Planning Commission Agenda

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 Meeting

7:00 PM

DARRIN MROZ, Chair
REBECCA POLLACK-RUDE, Vice Chair
PAUL CIRCO
SHANNON EDISON
ANTHONY SOTTILE

Meeting Location: City Council Chambers, 200 Civic Center Way, El Cajon, CA, 92020

Please note that, pursuant to State and County Health Orders, in-person meetings have resumed. The public is welcome to attend and participate.

The meeting will be live-streamed through the City website at: <https://www.elcajon.gov/your-government/city-meetings-with-agendas-and-minutes-all>.

To submit written comments on an item on this agenda, or a Public Comment, please e-mail the comments with Planning Commission in the subject line to planning@elcajon.gov before 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023. Comments will be limited to 300 words and will be entered into the official Commission Meeting Record.

The City of El Cajon is endeavoring to be in total compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require assistance or auxiliary aids in order to participate at the Commission meeting, please contact our office at 619-441-1742, option 3, as soon as possible.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the opportunity for the public to address the Commission on any item of business within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not on the agenda. Under state law no action can be taken on items brought forward under Public Comment except to refer the item to staff for administrative action or to place it on a future agenda. Non-agenda public comments must be submitted before the end of public comment during the meeting.

CONSENT

Agenda Item:	1
	Planning Commission minutes of November 7, 2023

Decisions and Appeals - A decision of the Planning Commission is final unless appealed within 10 days of the date of the Commission's action. The appeal period for the items on this Agenda will end on Friday, December 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Agenda items which are forwarded to City Council for final action need not be appealed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Agenda Item:	2	
Project Name:	Plaza de Las Palmas Shopping Center Specific Plan	
Request:	Amend Specific Plan No. 32 (SP-2023-0002) to allow neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities	
CEQA Recommendation:	Exempt	
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL	
Project Number(s):	Specific Plan (SP) No. 2023-0002	
Location:	Southeast corner of East Chase and Avocado Avenues	
Applicant:	Vince Kattoula, vince@kattoula.com	
Project Planner:	Noah Alvey; 619-441-1795; nalvey@elcajon.gov	
City Council Hearing Required?	Yes	December 12, 2023
Recommended Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct the public hearing; and 2. MOVE to adopt the next resolutions in order recommending City Council approval of the proposed CEQA exemption and to amend Specific Plan No. 32 to allow neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities, subject to conditions. 	

Agenda Item:	3	
Project Name:	Zoning Code Amendment	
Request:	Initiate Zoning Code Amendment	
CEQA Recommendation:	EXEMPT	
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	APPROVE	
Project Number(s):	ZCA-2023-0002	
Location:	Citywide	
Applicant:	Community Development Department	
Project Planner:	Noah Alvey; nalvey@elcajon.gov ; 619-441-1795	
City Council Hearing Required?	No	
Recommended Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct the public hearing; and 2. MOVE to adopt the next resolutions in order, initiating an amendment to the El Cajon Zoning Code. 	

4. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Proposed 2024 Planning Commission Meeting Calendar

5. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

6. COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

7. ADJOURNMENT

This Planning Commission meeting is adjourned to December 5, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Decisions and Appeals - A decision of the Planning Commission is final unless appealed within 10 days of the date of the Commission's action. The appeal period for the items on this Agenda will end on Friday, December 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Agenda items which are forwarded to City Council for final action need not be appealed.



MINUTES PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING November 7, 2023

The meeting of the El Cajon Planning Commission was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Darrin MROZ (Chair)
 Rebecca POLLACK-RUDE (Vice Chair)
 Paul CIRCO
 Anthony SOTTILE
 Shannon EDISON

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: NONE

STAFF PRESENT: Noah ALVEY, Deputy Director of Community Development
 Barbara LUCK, Staff Attorney
 Spencer HAYES, Associate Planner
 Sable BELTRAN, Assistant Planner
 Laura JUSZAK, Administrative Secretary

Chair MROZ opened the Planning Commission meeting explaining the rules of conduct.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Agenda Item:	1
	Planning Commission minutes of September 19, 2023

Motion was made by MROZ, seconded by SOTTILE, to approve the September 19, 2023 minutes; motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM:

Agenda Item:	2
Project Name:	Literacy First Charter School Expansion
Request:	Increase student enrollment
CEQA Recommendation:	Exempt
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	APPROVE
Project Number(s):	Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 2023-0007
Location:	1012 E. Bradley Ave.
Applicant:	Literacy First Charter Schools; Steve Robinson; steve.robinson@LFCSINC.org
Project Planner:	Spencer Hayes; 619-441-1656; shayes@elcajon.gov
City Council Hearing Required?	No
Recommended Actions:	1. Conduct the public hearing; and 2. MOVE to adopt the next resolutions in order approving the CEQA determination and CUP No. 2023-0007, subject to conditions.

HAYES summarized the staff report through a PowerPoint presentation.

COMMISSIONERS asked questions with ALVEY and HAYES providing answers.

MROZ opened the public hearing.

Project Representative Debbie BEYER spoke in support of the project.

Project Representative Steve ROBINSON spoke in support of the project.

COMMISSIONERS asked questions of project representatives.

Neighboring property owner Don MITCHELL spoke regarding the project with questions regarding traffic on East Bradley Avenue.

Motion was made by CIRCO, seconded by EDISON, to close the public hearing; motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONERS discussed the item.

Motion was made by POLLACK-RUDE, seconded by EDISON, to adopt the next resolutions in order approving the CEQA determination and CUP No. 2023-0007 (CUP-2023-0007), subject to conditions, and adding a condition to coordinate with the City Traffic Engineer to implement road striping or other measures to prevent vehicles from blocking the intersections of Pepper Villa Drive and Woodburn Street with East Bradley Avenue; motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item:	3
Project Name:	G&M Automotive Fueling Station
Request:	Rebuild an existing gas station.
CEQA Recommendation:	Exempt
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	APPROVE
Project Number(s):	Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 2023-0002
Location:	398 El Cajon Boulevard
Applicant:	Karl Huy; khuy@tci-eng.com ; 714-693-9388
Project Planner:	Sable Beltran, sbeltran@elcajon.gov , 619-441-1782
City Council Hearing Required?	No
Recommended Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct the public hearing; and 2. MOVE to adopt the next resolutions in order approving the CEQA determination and CUP No. 2023-0002, subject to conditions.

BELTRAN summarized the staff report through a PowerPoint presentation.

COMMISSIONERS asked questions with ALVEY and BELTRAN providing answers.

MROZ opened the public hearing.

Project Representative Karl HUY spoke in support of the project.

El Cajon resident Patrick GRILLOT spoke in opposition to the project.

Motion was made by MROZ, seconded by CIRCO, to close the public hearing; motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONERS discussed the item.

Motion was made by SOTTILE, seconded by POLLACK-RUDE, to adopt the next resolutions in order approving the CEQA determination and CUP No. 2023-0002 (CUP-2023-0002), subject to conditions; motion carried 5-0.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

There were no other items for consideration.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Deputy Director of Public Works Mario SANCHEZ gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Public Works El Cajon Boulevard Roundabout and West Main Street improvements.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS:

There were no COMMISSIONER reports or comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by MROZ, seconded by SOTTILE, to adjourn the meeting of the El Cajon Planning Commission at 8:17 p.m. this 7th Day of November, 2023, until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 21, 2023; motion carried 5-0.

Darrin MROZ, Chair

ATTEST:

Noah ALVEY, Secretary

DRAFT



Community Development Department
PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

Agenda Item:	2
Project Name:	Plaza de Las Palmas Shopping Center Specific Plan
Request:	Amend Specific Plan No. 32 (SP-2023-0002) to allow neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities
CEQA Recommendation:	Exempt
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL
Location:	Southeast corner of East Chase and Avocado Avenues
Applicant:	Vince Kattoula, vince@kattoula.com
Project Planner:	Noah Alvey; 619-441-1795; nalvey@elcajon.gov
City Council Hearing Required?	Yes December 12, 2023
Recommended Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct the public hearing; and 2. MOVE to adopt the next resolutions in order recommending City Council approval of the proposed CEQA exemption and to amend Specific Plan No. 32 to allow neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This is a request to amend Specific Plan (SP) No. 32 in order to expand opportunities for neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities at the Plaza de Las Palmas Shopping Center (shopping center). Currently, SP No. 32 regulates interconnecting access, shared amenities, and allows uses in accordance with the underlying Neighborhood Commercial (C-N) zoning. The proposed amendment to SP No. 32 proposes to allow general retail stores greater than 20,000 square feet in floor areas to conduct warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities while not compromising the character of the neighborhood serving shopping center and ensuring compatibility with nearby residential uses.

BACKGROUND

General Plan:	Neighborhood Commercial (NC)
Specific Plan:	Specific Plan No. 32
Zone:	C-N (Neighborhood Commercial)

SP No. 32 was first adopted in 1958. The shopping center is approximately 13 acres in size and developed with two large commercial spaces exceeding 20,000 sq. ft. in floor area which act as anchor stores for the shopping center. Numerous small retail and restaurant uses occupy the remainder of the shopping center along the interior property lines and

there are three freestanding buildings near the adjacent streets, East Chase and Avocado Avenues. The overall retail commercial spaces include approximately 120,000 sq. ft. of retail space, however, the specific plan has approved an additional 10,000 sq. ft. of retail space, which has not been constructed. Over 600 parking stalls are provided at the shopping center and the parking areas are primarily located between the anchor stores and the adjacent streets, while loading areas are located along the southerly and easterly property lines.

Surrounding Context

Properties surrounding the subject site are developed and zoned as follows:

Direction	Zones	Land Uses
North	C-N	Miscellaneous retail uses, CVS Pharmacy
South	O-S-H	Single-family homes
East	RS-9	Single-family homes
West	RS-6 & C-N	Single-family homes, 7-Eleven retail store

General Plan

The shopping center has a General Plan designation of “Neighborhood Commercial”. The Neighborhood Commercial designation is intended to be small shopping centers found in close proximity to residential areas, typically two to five acres in size, which provide for the daily or frequent shopping needs of these nearby residents. Objective 9-4.3 further states that “commercial establishments shall be carefully integrated with the surrounding area. Conflicts with residential or other sensitive land uses should be minimized.” The adjacent streets, East Chase and Avocado Avenues, are designated as primary thoroughfares, which are designed to act as a link between the freeway and subordinate streets.

Specific Plan

Chapter 17.70 of the El Cajon Municipal Code ("ECMC") includes requirements for specific plans. Specifically, section 17.70.010 indicates that, “a specific plan is a plan for a particular portion of the city where circumstances require a more detailed plan of development than the general plan, and/or more detailed standards than the general provisions of the Zoning Code.” Furthermore, section 17.70.050 indicates that specific plans may include, “regulations of the use of land and buildings...”, as well as, “such other matters which will accomplish the purposes of this chapter, including procedures for the administration of such regulations.”

Zoning Code

Currently, warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities as primary uses within the City are limited to the Manufacturing (M) zone and Heavy Commercial (C-M) zone. These areas are concentrated near Interstate 8 and north of Fletcher Parkway near Gillespie Field in the westerly and northerly portions of the City and therefore not

available near the subject site. Warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities are permitted in commercial zones as accessory uses, but are limited to 15 percent of the total receipts and not more than 15 percent of the floor area available for the sale, merchandising and display of consumer products. The current request would allow warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities at the shopping center within tenant spaces greater than 20,000 sq. ft. to exceed the 15 percent threshold.

Tobacco and Alcohol

Retail tobacco sales display areas are limited to sixteen cubic feet of shelf space within a retail commercial store, otherwise the retail commercial store is considered a “smoke shop” and required to obtain a conditional use permit and be located at least 1,000 feet from other smoke shops, 500 feet from residentially zoned property, and 600 feet from certain specific land uses (religious facilities, courthouse, playgrounds, schools, etc.). Similarly, retail alcohol sales display areas are allowed in general retail stores, grocery stores, or retail pharmacies which are at least 10,000 square feet of gross floor space and have a maximum of 10 percent of the gross floor area devoted to the sales and display of alcoholic beverages, otherwise the retail commercial store is considered a “alcoholic beverage sales establishment” and is required to obtain a conditional use permit and be located 1,000 feet from other alcoholic beverage sales establishments, 600 feet from residentially zoned property, and 600 feet from certain specific land uses (religious facilities, courthouse, playgrounds, schools, etc.).

The specific plan proposes to allow wholesale tobacco and alcohol sales with neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities, however, wholesale tobacco and alcohol sales would be not accessible to the general public and not be visible within publicly accessible areas. Furthermore, the specific plan proposes to limit the combined total area devoted to wholesale tobacco and alcohol sales to no more than 25 percent of the floor area of the use. Retail sales of tobacco and alcohol will continue to be permitted in accordance with adopted Zoning Code regulations.

DISCUSSION

Online retail activities and home delivery businesses such as Amazon, Door Dash, Instacart, and Uber Eats are fundamentally transforming the retail landscape by increasing demand for warehousing and localized distribution systems. Cities are seeing this at the regional level as Amazon builds new localized warehousing and delivery systems, but also at the local level inside of retail commercial businesses such as Target and WalMart where space is being allocated to store merchandise purchased online that is then delivered to customers waiting in the parking lot. Grocery stores like Vons are also changing as they deliver merchandise to customers in their parking lot as well as offering delivery directly to the customer’s home.

The General Plan identifies the site as “Neighborhood Commercial”, however the 13 acre size of the shopping center is greater than most Neighborhood Commercial shopping centers which are typically 2-5 acres in size. The shopping center also fronts on two

primary thoroughfares, East Chase and Avocado Avenues, which are intended to carry traffic across and around the city and serve as a link between freeways and subordinate streets. These site characteristics make the shopping center well suited to serve as location for wholesale, warehousing, and distribution to the surrounding community.

Utilizing a specific plan, the City has the flexibility to address unique circumstances while still implementing General Plan goals. At the subject site the General Plan envisions neighborhood serving commercial uses that are well integrated with nearby sensitive uses and residences. In this instance, the specific plan amendment seeks to find a balance for the increased demand for localized warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities in a portion of the City where these uses are not currently allowed. The proposed specific plan amendment will codify development standards and architectural guidelines to ensure compatibility with adjacent residential uses. Any new delivery docks or loading areas will not be allowed to face the adjacent residences on Burnaby St. nor be visible from the adjacent streets. The architectural guidelines also require the retention of the existing colonnades at the shopping center and that commercial storefronts maintain a minimum 20 percent window coverage to maintain a neighborhood commercial atmosphere.

Existing zoning regulations generally allow for warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities to occur at retail stores as an accessory use, but limit the activities to 15% of the floor area available for the use. The proposed change to the specific plan would limit neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities to stores greater than 20,000 sq. ft. in floor area, and remove the 15% limitation. Currently, only two spaces within the shopping center would qualify, which are the Vons store and the former Rite Aid store. The applicant for this request does intend to utilize the former Rite Aid store for warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities. The use has been characterized by the applicant as being similar to Costco or Sam's Club, with the business open to the public, while continuing to offer products by retail and wholesale. The specific plan also addresses wholesale tobacco and alcohol sales by requiring that they are not visible to the general public, thus ensuring that the use maintains the appearance of a retail commercial use and does not present the appearance of a liquor store or smoke shop.

FINDINGS

The following findings must be made to approve a specific plan.

A. The proposed specific plan serves the public interest.

The proposed specific plan amendment serves the public interest as it will provide increased opportunities for localized warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities in a portion of the city where these type of activities are only allowed as accessory uses to neighborhood commercial stores. The public interest will also be served by allowing for neighborhood scale distribution systems that are responding to increased demand from consumers for home based delivery and neighborhood serving markets.

B. The proposed specific plan will systematically implement the City's General Plan.

The proposed specific plan amendment will systematically implement the city's general plan because it is consistent with General Plan Objective 9-4.3 which states that "commercial establishments shall be carefully integrated with the surrounding area. Conflicts with residential or other sensitive land uses should be minimized." The proposed specific plan amendment will be compatible with the surrounding area by maintaining a retail commercial atmosphere with windows and covered colonnades in the public realm, by concealing wholesale alcohol and tobacco activities from retail customers, and by prohibiting new delivery docks or loading areas from being oriented towards adjacent residences on Burnaby St. or being visible from the adjacent streets.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The proposed specific plan amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) of CEQA Guidelines. The Specific Plan will continue to allow the operation of existing private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The Specific Plan will allow additional square footage within the existing retail spaces to be allocated to neighborhood scale warehousing, distribution, and wholesale without compromising the character of the neighborhood shopping center and ensuring compatibility with nearby residential uses.

PUBLIC NOTICE & INPUT

A notice of public hearing was mailed on November 9, 2023, to all property owners within 300 feet of the project site and to anyone who requested such notice in writing, in compliance with Government Code sections 65090, 65091, and 65092, as applicable. Additionally, as a public service, the notice was posted in the kiosk at City Hall and on the City's website under "Public Hearings/Public Notices." The notice was also mailed to the two public libraries in the City of El Cajon, located at 201 East Douglas Avenue and 576 Garfield Avenue. Sixty-eight public comments have been received in support of this request. One adjacent resident requested additional information and expressed support for the request.

RECOMMENDATION

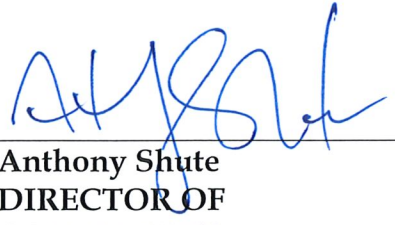
Staff is recommending approval of the amendment of SP No. 32 in order to accommodate increased demand for localized warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities in a manner that maintains a neighborhood commercial atmosphere that will be compatible with surrounding properties and uses.

PREPARED BY:



Noah Alvey
**DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

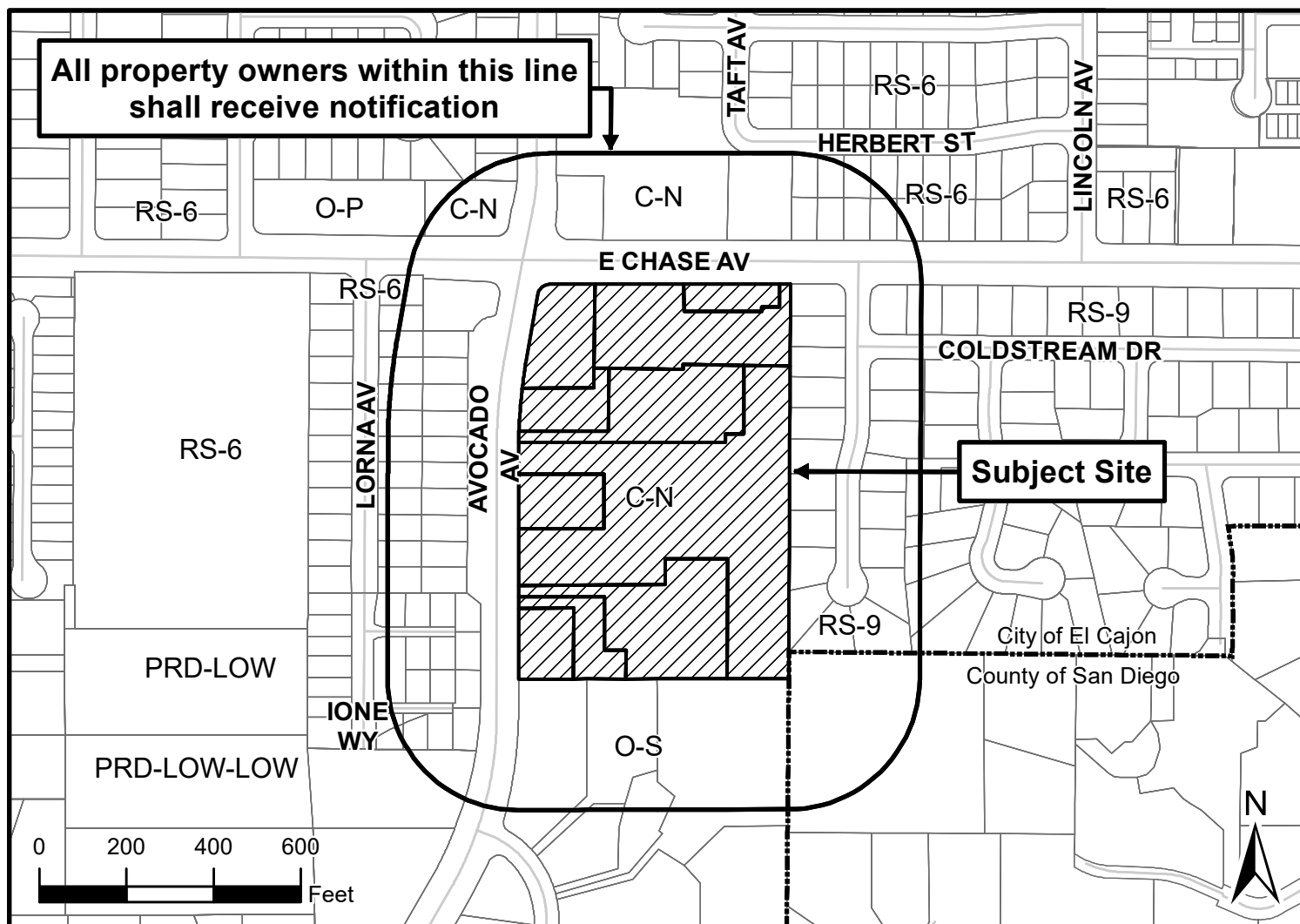
APPROVED BY:



Anthony Shute
**DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Public Hearing Notice/Location Map
2. Proposed CEQA Resolution
3. Proposed Specific Plan Resolution
4. Exhibit A - Draft Specific Plan No. 32
5. Application & Disclosure Statement



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED
SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 2023-0002
FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SERVING WHOLESALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the El Cajon Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at **7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 21, 2023**, and the El Cajon City Council will hold a public hearing at **7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 12, 2023** in the City Council Chambers, 200 Civic Center Way, El Cajon, CA, to consider:

SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 2023-0002, as submitted by Vince Kattoula, proposing to allow for neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale uses at an existing retail shopping center in the Neighborhood Commercial zone. The subject property is located on the southeast corner of Avocado and Chase Avenues, and is addressed as 1135 Avocado Avenue, APNs 493-290-12, -15, -17, -18, -19, -20, -21, -22, -23, & -24.

The public is invited to attend and participate in this public hearing. The agenda report for this project will be available 72 hours prior to the Planning Commission meeting at <https://www.elcajon.gov/your-government/city-meetings-with-agendas-and-minutes-all>. In an effort to reduce the City's carbon footprint, paper copies will not be provided at the public hearing, but will be available at City Hall in the Project Assistance Center upon request.

If you challenge the matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Commission, or prior to, the public hearing. The City of El Cajon encourages the participation of disabled individuals in the services, activities, and programs provided by the City. Individuals with disabilities who require reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing should contact Planning at 619-441-1742. More information about planning and zoning in El Cajon is available at <http://www.elcajon.gov/your-government/departments/community-development/planning-division>.

If you have any questions, or wish any additional information, please contact **SPENCER HAYES** at 619-441-1742 or via email at shayes@elcajon.gov and reference "SP-2023-0002" in the subject line.



CITY OF EL CAJON
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING DIVISION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Specific Plan No. 2023-0002
1135 Avocado Avenue

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT PUBLIC HEARINGS

BACKGROUND:

A public hearing is an opportunity for you to make information known to the City of El Cajon prior to a decision being made on a project in which you have an interest. Public hearings may be heard by either the Planning Commission or the City Council. The procedures used by both of these bodies are very similar. Both the Council and the Commission work from a prepared agenda. Items are considered in the sequence shown on the agenda unless by specific motion the order is changed. Agendas and reports will be available at the meeting. *Additionally, Planning Commission and City Council agenda reports can be found under the link <http://www.elcajon.gov/your-government/city-meetings-with-agendas-and-minutes-all>.*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The City is required by law to hear anyone desiring to speak, though the time allocated may be limited by the Chair or Mayor unless you represent a group. It is asked that your remarks be relevant to the subject and as brief as possible. If you are not able to be present at the hearing, you are welcome to submit a letter expressing your views. If you have questions prior to the hearing, you are invited to contact the staff member listed on the official notice on the opposite side of this page. The City has provided alternative means to observe the meeting through the city's website. Please visit <http://www.elcajon.gov/videostreaming> for more details. Those wishing to attend the meeting may do so.

VOTING PROCEDURE:

After everyone has spoken, the public hearing will be closed, a motion made, and a vote taken. An electronic voting system is used. After all votes have been cast, they will be displayed simultaneously. Green indicates a YES vote; red a NO vote; and white an ABSTENTION. Three yes votes are necessary to approve a motion.

DISABLED ACCESS:

The City of El Cajon is endeavoring to be in total compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. If you require assistance or auxiliary aids in order to participate at Planning Commission meetings, please contact the Project Assistance Center at 619-441-1742 as far in advance of the meeting as possible. *48 hours preferred*

CITY HALL BUSINESS HOURS

City Hall at 200 Civic Center Way: Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed alternate Fridays.

A full calendar of business hours and dates can be found on the City's website at www.elcajon.gov, or you may call the Project Assistance Center at 619-441-1742.

PROPOSED PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF A CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) EXEMPTION SECTION 15301 (EXISTING FACILITIES) FOR AN AMENDMENT OF SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 32 TO ALLOW AN INCREASE IN WAREHOUSING, DISTRIBUTION, AND WHOLESALE ACTIVITIES AT AN EXISTING SHOPPING CENTER AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF EAST CHASE AND AVOCADO AVENUES IN THE C-N (NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL) ZONE; GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION: NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL (NC)

WHEREAS, the El Cajon Planning Commission held a duly advertised public hearing on November 21, 2023, to consider an amendment of Specific Plan No. 32 as submitted by Vince Kattoula, to increase opportunities for warehousing, distribution and wholesale activities in the Neighborhood Commercial (C-N) zone, on the southeast corner of East Chase and Avocado Avenues, APN 493-290-12, -15, -17, -18, -19, -20, -21, -22, -23, & -24; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines section 15061(b)(2), the Planning Commission reviewed and considered the information contained in the project staff report; and

WHEREAS, CEQA section 15301 provides an exemption for the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing private structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use; and

WHEREAS, warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities are currently allowed in the Neighborhood Commercial zone as an accessory use and the Specific Plan will allow additional square footage within the existing retail spaces to be allocated to neighborhood scale warehousing, distribution, and wholesale without compromising the character of the neighborhood shopping center and ensuring compatibility with nearby residential uses; and

WHEREAS, no evidence was presented in proceedings that any of the conditions exist to provide exceptions to categorical exemptions as described in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2, exist; and

WHEREAS, section 15301 is an appropriate exemption for the proposed project and the record of proceedings contains evidence to support the determination that the Class 1 Categorical Exemption applies; and

Proposed Planning Commission Resolution

WHEREAS, after considering evidence and facts, the Planning Commission did consider the proposed CEQA exemption as presented at its meeting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the El Cajon Planning Commission as follows:

Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and are findings of fact of the El Cajon Planning Commission in regard to the proposed exemption to increase opportunities for warehousing, distribution and wholesale activities at existing shopping center.

Section 2. That based upon said findings of fact, the El Cajon Planning Commission hereby APPROVES the proposed CEQA exemption for the amendment of Specific Plan No. 32.

[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]

Proposed Planning Commission Resolution

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the El Cajon Planning Commission at a regular meeting held November 21, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:

Darrin Mroz, Chair

ATTEST:

Noah ALVEY, Secretary

PROPOSED PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 32 TO ALLOW AN INCREASE IN WAREHOUSING, DISTRIBUTION, AND WHOLESALE ACTIVITIES AT AN EXISTING SHOPPING CENTER AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF EAST CHASE AND AVOCADO AVENUES IN THE C-N (NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL) ZONE; GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION: NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL (NC)

WHEREAS, the El Cajon Planning Commission duly advertised and held a public hearing on November 21, 2023, to consider an amendment of Specific Plan No. 32 as submitted by Vince Kattoula, to increase opportunities for warehousing, distribution and wholesale activities in the Neighborhood Commercial (C-N) zone, on the southeast corner of East Chase and Avocado Avenues, APN 493-290-12, -15, -17, -18, -19, -20, -21, -22, -23, & -24; and

WHEREAS, the El Cajon Planning Commission adopted the next resolution in order determining that the proposed project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") according to Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) of the CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing the Planning Commission received evidence through public testimony and comment in the form of verbal and written communications, and reports prepared and presented to the Planning Commission, including (but not limited to) evidence such as the following:

- A. The proposed specific plan amendment serves the public interest as it will provide increased opportunities for localized warehousing, distribution, and wholesale activities in a portion of the city where these type of activities are only allowed as accessory uses to neighborhood commercial stores. The public interest will also be served by allowing for neighborhood scale distribution systems that are responding to increased demand from consumers for home based delivery and neighborhood serving markets.
- B. The proposed specific plan amendment will systematically implement the city's general plan because it is consistent with General Plan Objective 9-4.3 which states that "commercial establishments shall be carefully integrated with the surrounding area. Conflicts with residential or other sensitive land uses should be minimized." The proposed specific plan amendment will be compatible with the surrounding area by maintaining a retail commercial atmosphere with windows and covered colonnades in the public realm, by concealing wholesale alcohol and tobacco activities from retail customers, and by prohibiting new delivery docks or loading areas from being oriented towards adjacent residences on Burnaby St. or being visible from the adjacent streets.

Proposed Planning Commission Resolution

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the El Cajon Planning Commission as follows:

Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and are findings of fact of the El Cajon Planning Commission in regard to Specific Plan No. 19.

Section 2. That based upon said findings of fact, the El Cajon Planning Commission hereby RECOMMENDS City Council APPROVAL of an amendment of Specific Plan No. 32, in accordance with the attached "Exhibit A".

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Proposed Planning Commission Resolution

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the El Cajon City Planning Commission at a regular meeting held November 21, 2023, by the following vote:

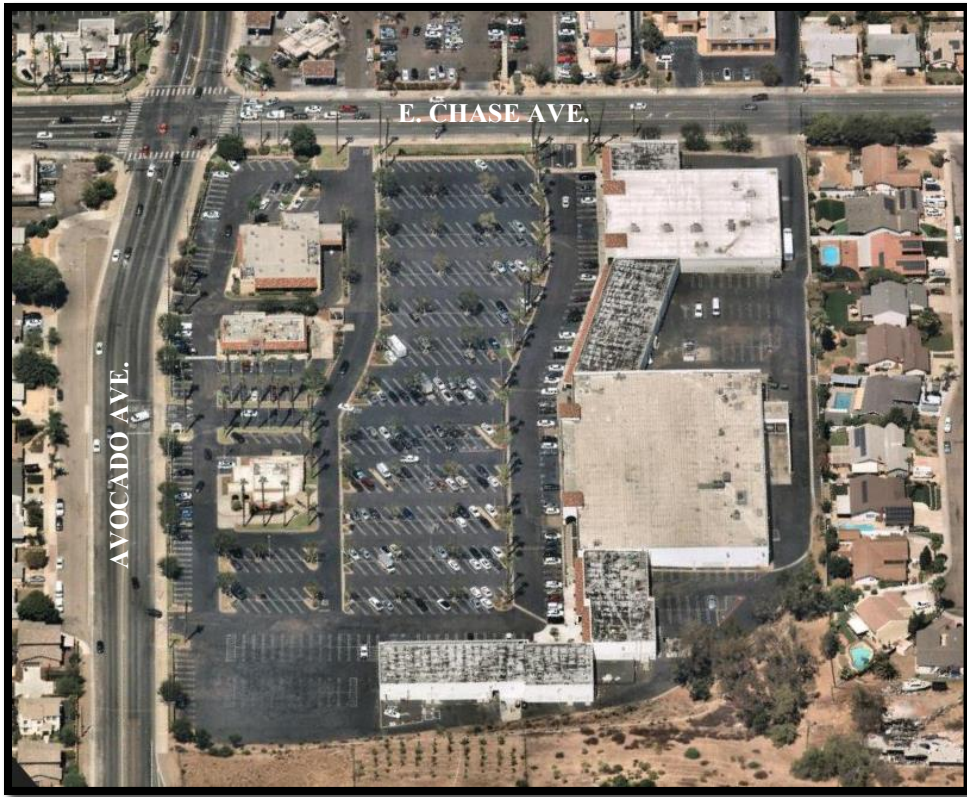
AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

Darrin MROZ, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Noah ALVEY, Secretary

**Plaza de Las Palmas Shopping Center Specific Plan
Specific Plan (SP) No. 32
SP No. 2023-0002**



Section 1. Purpose and Intent.

The evolution of online retailing and localized distribution systems through businesses like Amazon, Door Dash, Instacart, and Uber Eats, etc. has changed the character of retail commercial establishments and has increased the demand for warehousing, as well more nuanced distribution systems for retail and wholesale activities in closer proximity to residential areas where customers are demanding shorter and shorter delivery times. Existing warehousing and distribution uses within the City are limited to the M (Manufacturing) zone and C-M (Heavy Commercial) zone. These areas are concentrated near Interstate 8 and north of Fletcher Parkway near Gillespie Field in the westerly and northerly portions of the City. The goal of this Specific Plan is to allow smaller scale wholesale businesses within the Specific Plan area without compromising the character of the neighborhood serving shopping center and ensuring compatibility with nearby residential uses, while preserving the continued operation of the existing shopping center in accordance with C-N (Neighborhood Commercial) zoning regulations.

The typical impression of wholesale establishments, is that of a Costco or Sam's Club, which technically, are not wholesalers. These establishments primarily sell all of their products directly to retail customers as well as to wholesale customers. It is the intent of this Specific Plan to allow smaller wholesale sales and retail sales to occur within the same establishment. Both retail and wholesale customers are allowed to purchase household goods in the establishment but only wholesale customers are allowed to purchase wholesale alcohol and tobacco products. This arrangement allows establishments within the Specific Plan to maintain a retail ambiance without contributing to any existing issues in regard to the sale of alcohol and tobacco in the vicinity of residential land uses. Wholesale alcohol and tobacco products are required to be separated from the general household goods in a secured area and the sale of wholesale alcohol and tobacco products to non-retailers is prohibited. The Specific Plan will continue to allow retail alcohol and tobacco sales in accordance with Title 17 of the El Cajon Municipal Code.

Section 2. Definitions

“Neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale” means a trade use that sell goods in large quantities to other businesses, to professionals, and to retail establishments, but is open to the general public for retail sales. Typically, wholesale uses involve the storage of large quantities of goods in warehouses and may also involve the distribution of goods to retail establishments, professionals, and other end-users.

Section 3. Specific Plan Area.

The Specific Plan includes approximately 12.9 acres (563,406 square feet) of land area located at the southeast corner of Avocado Avenue and E. Chase Avenue. It is comprised of Assessor Parcel Numbers 493-290-1200, 493-290-1500, 493-290-1700, 493-290-1800, 493-290-1900, 493-290-2000, 493-290-2100, 493-290-2200, 493-290-2300, and 493-290-2300. Approved development at the site include approximately 131,776 square feet of existing commercial buildings.

The Specific Plan area has been built-out as a shopping area which is called Plaza de las Palmas. The Vons grocery store and former Rite Aid Pharmacy anchor the “strip mall” portion of the shopping area which also includes numerous small retail and restaurant uses. The shopping area also includes three stand-alone buildings.

Section 4. Authority and Scope.

This specific plan is established by the El Cajon City Council in accordance with Chapter 17.70 of the El Cajon Municipal Code (ECMC), which establishes specific plans as an authorized mechanism for regulating land use and development in the City; and as enabled by the State of California Government Code Title 7, Division 1, Chapter 3, Article 8, Sections 65450 through 65457. The development and design standards, and permitted uses contained within this specific plan supersede the previous land use and development regulations contained within the ECMC for the subject sites. Where the specific plan is silent, the regulations of the ECMC are applicable.

Section 5. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Adoption of a Specific Plan constitutes a project under CEQA. Pursuant to CEQA, this project is exempt in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities). The Specific Plan will continue to allow the operation of existing private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The Specific Plan allows additional square footage within the existing retail spaces to be allocated to neighborhood scale warehousing, distribution, and wholesale without compromising the character of the neighborhood shopping center and ensuring compatibility with nearby residential uses.

Section 6. Amendments to this Specific Plan.

Specific plan amendments shall be made through the provisions found in the ECMC; specifically, Chapters 17.57, 17.63 and 17.70. The City Council may at any time, after holding a properly noticed public hearing, at which time the applicant may appear and object under applicable law to any potential repeal or modification of the conditions of approval, and after considering testimony as to the operation of the approved uses, repeal this specific plan, or modify the plan with additional conditions as it deems necessary to ensure that the approved uses continue to be compatible with surrounding properties and continue to be operated in a manner that is in the best interest of public convenience and necessity and will not be contrary to the public health, safety or welfare.

Section 7. Appeal.

Any decision by the Director of Community Development may be appealed to the Planning Commission, upon receipt of a written request for a hearing, in accordance with the provisions of ECMC Chapter 17.30. The Director of Community Development shall schedule any appeal for the next available Planning Commission meeting based on notice times and agenda availability.

Section 8. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted the specific plan and each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases may be declared invalid.

Section 9. Permitted Uses.

All uses allowed in the C-N zone are allowed within the Specific Plan area as shown in the ECMC section 17.145.150, Table 145.150 Commercial Land Use Table.

The following table lists additional uses that may be established. The abbreviations used in the land use table shall have the following meanings:

P "P" means "permitted use"

Land Use	Status	Notes
Neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale	P	1, 2, 3

1. Allowed in conjunction with a retail store greater than 20,000 square feet in floor area.
2. Must continue to offer retail sales and be publicly accessible
3. Wholesale tobacco and alcohol products shall be enclosed in a separate area from general household goods, limited to a combined area of no more than 25% of the floor area, and will not be readily visible to the general public.

Section 10. Use Regulations.

Wholesale products sold in conjunction with a neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale use are not required to be available to retail commercial customers.

Section 11. Development Standards.

The development standards set forth in ECMC Chapter 17.130 are applicable. The following development standards shall supersede ECMC Chapter 17.130

- 11.1 **Setbacks:** The commercial setbacks contained in ECMC section 17.145.090 shall apply, except that no commercial buildings or additions to existing commercial building shall encroach into a 24 foot setback from the adjacent residentially zoned properties. The building closest to the eastern property line is currently occupied by the Vons grocery store. It is located 24 feet from the property line.
- 11.2 **New Delivery Docks/Loading Areas:** New delivery docks/loading areas shall not directly face adjacent residences on Burnaby St. nor be visible from the public rights-of-way adjacent to the shopping center.
- 11.3 **Trash Enclosures:** Tenant improvements exceeding the construction valuation in ECMC section 12.12.030 shall be required to upgrade the trash enclosure utilized by the business in accordance with City standards.

Section 12. Architectural Guidelines

The architectural guidelines set forth in ECMC Chapter 17.180 are applicable. The following architectural guidelines shall supersede ECMC Chapter 17.180.

- 12.1 **Colonnades:** Existing colonnades traversing multiple tenant spaces shall be preserved, unless a comprehensive architectural upgrade is proposed and completed.
- 12.2 **Transparency:** All commercial storefronts shall maintain a minimum of 20% of the surface area beneath colonnades as windows.

Section 13. Performance Standards.

- 13.1 All new parking lot lighting elements shall be directed downward and shielded from adjacent residential properties.
- 13.2 All landscaped areas shall be sufficiently watered and periodically fertilized to establish and maintain healthy growth, and shall be maintained in a neat, litter and weed free condition. All plants shall be pruned and trimmed as necessary, and upon notification by the Planning Division, all plant materials that have died or have failed to show healthy growth shall be replaced by plants of the same or similar species. Replacement by more drought resistant plants may also be approved. Landscape maintenance shall include regular inspection, adjustment, and repair of the irrigation system, including making seasonal changes to the irrigation controller.
- 13.3 All uses under this specific plan shall be operated in a manner that complies at all times with the performance standards in ECMC section 17.115.130.

Section 14. Alcohol Sales.

Alcohol sales and deemed approved alcohol sales regulations contained in ECMC Chapter 17.210 are applicable for retail alcohol sales. Wholesale alcohol sales may be permitted with a neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale use, but shall not be readily visible by or accessible by retail commercial customers. Alcoholic Beverage Control Licenses Type 17 (Beer and Wine Wholesaler) and a type 18 (Distilled Spirits Wholesaler) will be allowed with neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale uses.

Section 15. Tobacco Products and Electronic/Vapor Substance Products.

Tobacco products and electronic/vapor substance product sales regulations contained in ECMC Chapter 17.240 are applicable. Wholesale tobacco products and electronic/vapor substance product sales may be permitted with a neighborhood serving warehousing, distribution, and wholesale use and may include cigarettes, cigars (machine made), cigars (hand rolled), roll-your-own tobacco, rolling paper, accessories, chewing tobacco (dry), chewing tobacco (moist), snus, filtered cigars, cigar wraps, e-cigs, and hookah tobacco. Retail tobacco sales shall be limited to a 16 cubic feet display area and subject to the regulations found in ECMC Chapter 8.33.

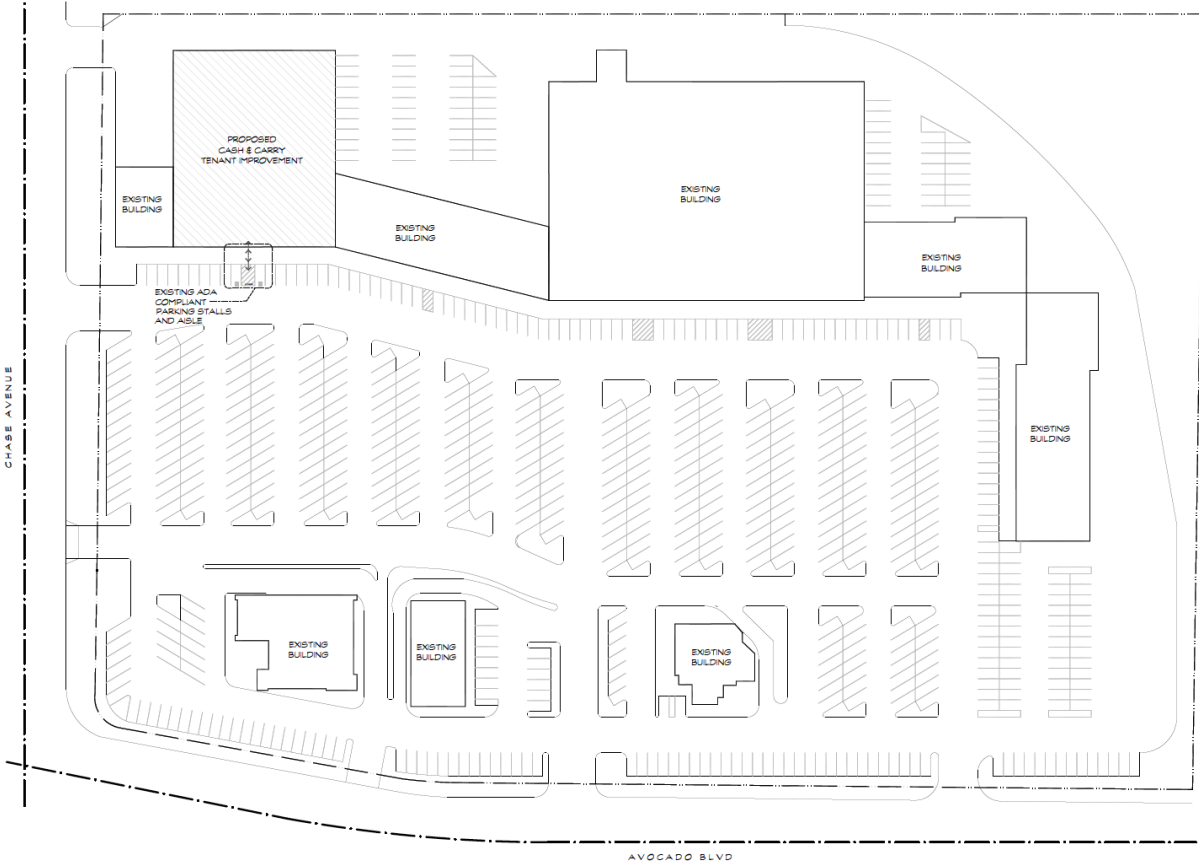
Section 16. Applicability.

Where this specific plan is silent in terms of the use and development standards for each site, the underlying zoning district and applicable general zoning regulations shall govern. Furthermore, where a conflict exists between this specific plan and the *ECMC*, this specific plan shall prevail.

Section 17. Attachments.

Exhibit A.1 - Reduced Site Plan

ATTACHMENT 1 REDUCED SITE PLAN





City of El Cajon

Project Assistance Center
PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION

Type of Planning Permit(s) Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/> AZP Administrative Zoning Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> CUP Conditional Use Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> LLA Lot Line Adjustment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA Minor Amendment
<input type="checkbox"/> MUP Minor Use Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> PRD Planned Residential Development	<input type="checkbox"/> PUD Planned Unit Development	<input type="checkbox"/> SDP Site Development Plan Permit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SP Specific Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> SCR Substantial Conformance Review	<input type="checkbox"/> TPM Tentative Parcel Map	<input type="checkbox"/> TSM Tentative Subdivision Map
<input type="checkbox"/> VAR Variance	<input type="checkbox"/> ZR Zone Reclassification	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

Project Location

Parcel Number (APN): 493-290-24

Address: 1135 Avocado Ave

Nearest Intersection: Chase

Project Description (or attach separate narrative)

See attached

Project Screening Questions

Existing use?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, please describe: <u>General retail sales</u>
Modification of use?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<u>Wholesale</u>
New development or addition?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	_____
Existing Structures?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Age of the structures: <u>35 years</u>

Demolition or substantial modification proposed to site improvements or structures? No Yes _____

Tenant improvements proposed? No Yes Interior shelving and registers

Existing vegetation or trees on site proposed for removal? No Yes _____

Proposed grading? No Yes Proposed quantities of cut and/or fill.

Applicant Information (the individual or entity proposing to carry out the project; not for consultants)

Company Name: Kattoula & Associates

Contact Name: Vince Kattoula

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2735

Phone: 619-750-9650 Email: vince@kattoula.com

Interest in Property: Own Lease Option

Project Representative Information (if different than applicant; consultant information here)

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____ License: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Property Owner Information (if different than applicant)

Company Name: 9346 ABRAHAM LLC

Contact Name: Aidan James

Mailing Address: 8665 Argent Street, Suite C, Santee, CA 92071

Phone: 781-879-2872 Email: aidan.james@ip-cre.com

Hazardous Waste and Substances Statement

Section 65962.5(f) of the State of California Government Code requires that before the City of El Cajon accepts as complete an application for any discretionary project, the applicant submit a signed statement indicating whether or not the project site is identified on the State of California Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List. This list identifies known sites that have been subject to releases of hazardous

chemicals, and is available at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/corteselist/>. Check the appropriate box and if applicable, provide the necessary information:

The development project and any alternatives proposed in this application:

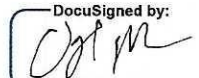
is/are NOT contained on the lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

is/are contained on the lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

If yes, provide Regulatory Identification Number: _____ Date of List: _____

Authorization

Applicant Signature¹:

DocuSigned by:

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Date: 9/28/2023

Property Owner
Signature²:

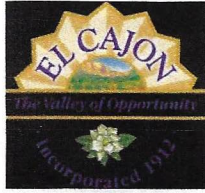


Date: 10/18/2023

1. **Applicant's Signature:** I certify that I have read this application and state that the above information is correct, and that I am the property owner, authorized agent of the property owner, or other person having a legal right, interest, or entitlement to the use of the property that is the subject of this application. I understand that the applicant is responsible for knowing and complying with the governing policies and regulations applicable to the proposed development or permit. The City is not liable for any damages or loss resulting from the actual or alleged failure to inform the applicant of any applicable laws or regulations, including before or during final inspections. City approval of a permit application, including all related plans and documents, is not a grant of approval to violate any applicable policy or regulation, nor does it constitute a waiver by the City to pursue any remedy, which may be available to enforce and correct violations of the applicable policies and regulations. I authorize representatives of the City to enter the subject property for inspection purposes.
2. **Property Owner's Signature:** If not the same as the applicant, property owner must also sign. A signed, expressed letter of consent to this application may be provided separately instead of signing this application form. By signing, property owner acknowledges and consents to all authorizations, requirements, conditions and notices described in this application. Notice of Restriction: property owner further acknowledges and consents to a Notice of Restriction being recorded on the title to their property related to approval of the requested permit. A Notice of Restriction runs with the land and binds any successors in interest.

Pre-submittal Review

The purpose of a pre-submittal review is to provide you an opportunity to review your project with the City's development team in a preliminary form to finalize submittal requirements and receive a cursory identification of potential issues. **A pre-application is required unless waived by staff.**



Disclosure Statement

This statement is intended to identify and avoid potential conflicts of interest that may exist between the project proponents and the decision makers; including City staff, Planning Commissioners, and City Council members.

The following information must be disclosed:

1. List the names and addresses of all persons having a financial interest in the application.

Ayad Mansour

1090 E. Washington, El Cajon

List the names and address of all persons having any ownership interest in the property involved.

9346 Abraham LLC

1059 Australia St. El Cajon

2. If any person identified pursuant to (1) above is a corporation or partnership, list the names and addresses of all individuals owning more than 10% of the shares in the corporation or owning any partnership interest in the partnership.

Mimi Nguyen

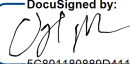
1059 Australia St. El Cajon

3. If any person identified pursuant to (1) above is a trust, list the name and address of any person serving as trustee or beneficiary or trustor of the trust.

4. Have you or your agents transacted more than \$500.00 worth of business with any member of City staff, Boards, Commissions, Committees and Council within the past 12 months or \$1,000.00 with the spouse of any such person? Yes _____ No X

If yes, please indicate person(s), dates, and amounts of such transactions or gifts.

“Person” is defined as “Any individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, business trust, company, corporation, association, committee, and any other organization or group of persons acting in concert.” Gov’t Code §82047.

DocuSigned by:

5C891100880D411

Ayad (Jeff) Mansour

Signature of applicant / date

Print or type name of applicant

NOTE: Attach appropriate names on additional pages as necessary.



Community Development Department
PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

Agenda Item:	3
Project Name:	Zoning Code Amendment
Request:	Initiate Zoning Code Amendment
CEQA Recommendation:	EXEMPT
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	APPROVE
Project Number(s):	ZCA-2023-0002
Location:	Citywide
Applicant:	Community Development Department
Project Planner:	Noah Alvey; nalvey@elcajon.gov ; 619-441-1795
City Council Hearing Required?	No
Recommended Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct the public hearing; and 2. MOVE to adopt the next resolution in order, initiating an amendment to the El Cajon Zoning Code

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The request is for the initiation of an amendment to the Zoning Code. Updates or revisions are periodically required to address current issues, provide clarification or conform to changes in state law. The 2023 Zoning Code Update will focus on two primary areas: economic development to support business retention and growth, and housing related updates. Other minor, non-substantive changes will also be included to improve clarity and consistency in the interpretation of the Zoning Code. Staff is requesting the Planning Commission formally initiate an amendment to the Zoning Code.

BACKGROUND

El Cajon Municipal Code section 17.20.020 provides that amendments to the Zoning Code may be initiated by the Planning Commission or City Council. The Zoning Code was comprehensively updated in 2010 and has been amended semi-annually to address specific issues or as part of regular omnibus updates.

DISCUSSION

Unlike previous periodic updates, several chapters of the Zoning Code will likely be significantly modified or repealed and replaced in their entirety. The proposed changes are summarized below.

Economic Development Initiatives

- Update Titles 9 (City Council action only) and 17 to define and prohibit intoxicating hemp
- Add standards for vacant property upkeep
- Allow for recycling of materials other than bottles and cans in commercial zones

Housing

- Add regulations for tiny homes on wheels
- Update objective design standards for residential development to provide clarity
- Update the Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance to provide clarity
- Remove modified standards for affordable housing pursuant to state density bonus law

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Initiation of these amendments is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is a procedural, administrative step in the process, which only directs staff to study and prepare potential amendments for future consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

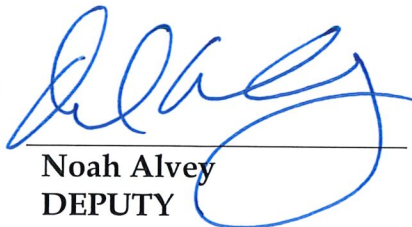
Initiate the Zoning Code Amendment

**PREPARED
BY:**



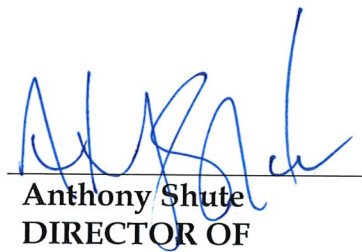
**Sable Beltran
ASSISTANT
PLANNER**

REVIEWED BY:



**Noah Alvey
DEPUTY
DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

APPROVED BY:



**Anthony Shute
DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Resolution APPROVING Initiation of the Zoning Code Amendment

PROPOSED PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF INTENT DIRECTING STAFF TO PREPARE FOR CONSIDERATION AN AMENDMENT TO TITLE 17 OF THE EL CAJON MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADDRESS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, AND OTHER MINOR TECHNICAL CHANGES.

WHEREAS, Planning staff administer Title 17 (Zoning) of the El Cajon Municipal Code and in that capacity periodically identify the need for revisions to address current issues, provide clarification or conform to changes in state law; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Code requires regular maintenance to ensure that it is consistent and effective in regulating the use and development of land in the City; and

WHEREAS, Planning staff have identified potential updates and revisions to the Zoning Code to further economic development and housing goals; and

WHEREAS, the facilitation of high quality housing development is a local and state priority; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission considered the scope of work in the agenda report in addition to public testimony; and

WHEREAS, the El Cajon Planning Commission acknowledges that the initiation of these amendments is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is a procedural, administrative step in the process, which only directs staff to study and prepare potential amendments for future consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that based upon said findings of fact, the El Cajon Planning Commission directs staff to prepare the following:

An amendment to El Cajon Municipal Code Titles 17 (Zoning) to consider revisions for economic development, housing, and various technical changes.

{The remainder of this page intentionally left blank}

Proposed Planning Commission Resolution

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the El Cajon Planning Commission at a regular meeting held November 21, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Darin MROZ, Chair

ATTEST:

Noah ALVEY, Secretary



City Council Meeting Schedule

January 2024 - December 2024

January 2024 1						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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February 2024 2						
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March 2024 3						
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31						

April 2024 4						
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28	29	30				

May 2024 5						
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June 2024 6						
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July 2024 7						
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August 2024 8						
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September 2024 9						
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October 2024 10						
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November 2024 11						
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December 2024 12						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- City Council
(619) 441-1763
- City Hall Closed
- Holidays
- League of CA Cities Conference
To be Announced, Long Beach CA
- Planning Commission
(619) 441-1742