



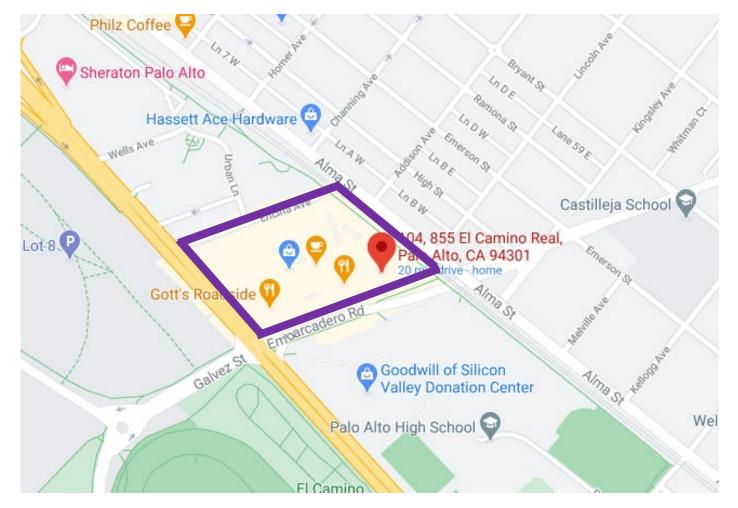


# **Town & Country Village** Zoning Code Text Amendment Second City Council Hearing

#### June 7 2021

www.cityofpaloalto.org

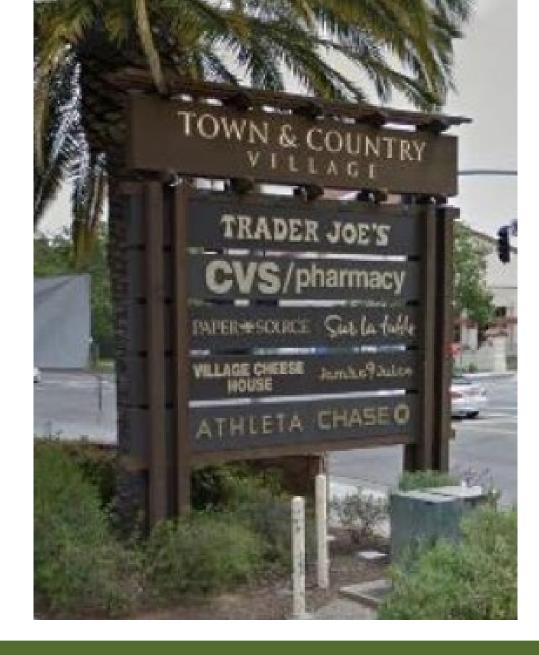
# **LOCATION MAP**





## **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The applicant legislative approval to replace ground floor retail and retail like uses with medical uses within the Town & Country Village





Declined medical office but supported a 'Retail Health' concept with direction to:

- Engage the PTC on new Retail Health definition
- Establish a 2-year limit to execute any leases
- Return to Council prior to summer break



# PTC RECOMMENDATION (5/10/21)

The PTC recommends:

- 1. New Retail Health definition that excludes:
  - Convalescence
  - Use of general anesthesia
- Emergency services
- Urgent care
- Limit Retail Health to 10% of existing ground floor area (15,025 square feet) at Town & Country Village
- 3. No Retail Health uses directly facing El Camino Real or Embarcadero Road





# **PTC RECOMMENDATION (Continued)**

- 4. Minimum Retail Health retail sales area of 750 square feet or 20%, whichever is less
- 5. Require transparent storefront glazing or retail displays to a minimum depth of 3 feet
- Restriction to establish tenant leases by December 31, 2023
- 7. Recommendation to Council to direct further study to extend definition to other retail areas





Commissioners that voted against the recommendation cited some of the following concerns or interests with respect to the Town and Country Village:

- Retail may recover / retail and retail-like uses should be preserved
- Uncertainty regarding uses that would be allowed w/proposed definition
- Request for greater specificity of allowed Retail Health uses
- Retail Health uses may detract / harm overall retail environment
- Interest to form Ad Hoc to further refine definition



Suggested minor change by the applicant in bold:

"Retail Health" means a Medical Office use that is 5,000 square feet or fewer providing sales, rental, service or repair of medical products and services to consumers or businesses, or providing preventative and diagnostic procedures, and other health related procedures, not requiring convalescence, general anesthesia, emergency services, or urgent care, **unless** [*the urgent care is*] **associated with a primary care use**, [...]



- The draft ordinance as recommended by the PTC which includes more specifics such as the definition of retail health and regulations for retail health uses.
- The continuation of retail health uses within Town & Country after the leases have ended
- The applicants suggestion for amendments to the retail health use definition
- The expansion of retail health uses beyond Town & Country



1. Find the attached ordinance exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (existing facilities); and

2. Adopt the attached Ordinance creating a "retail health" definition allowing a limited amount of retail health uses on the ground floor at Town and Country Shopping Center; and

3. Provide direction to staff on whether to study expansion of retail health uses to other shopping centers or commercial districts.



In addition to the recommended action, the Council may:

- Approve a modified ordinance, or
- Deny the applicant's request for a legislative zoning code amendment, or
- Remand the ordinance back to the PTC as appropriate and with specific direction



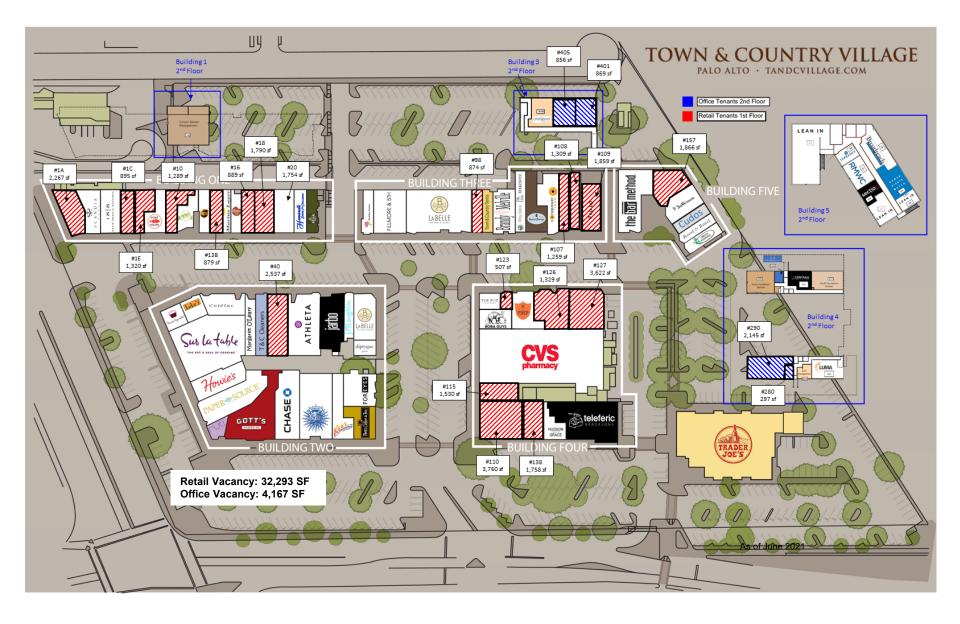


# CITY OF PALO ALTO

Town & County Village Palo Alto City Council June 7, 2021 T&C Retail Zoning Change - Application History

- Sept/Oct 2020: Initial Discussions with Staff
- Nov 17, 2020: Submit Zoning Change Application
- Feb 10, 2021: 1<sup>st</sup> PTC Hearing
- Mar 22, 2021: 1<sup>st</sup> Council Hearing
- May 12, 2021: 2<sup>nd</sup> PTC Hearing
- June 7, 2021: Today's Council Hearing

#### Town & Country Village – Vacancy Map



#### Town & Country Village – Retail Facts

#### **Town & Country Retail Sales**

2017 to 20182% Decline2018 to 20196% Decline2019 to 202035% Decline

**Town & Country Average Retail Vacancy** 

2015-20160.9%2017-20182.0%2019-20206.4%Current21.3%

#### **US Market – Retail Facts**

#### **Total Retail Sales (On-Line and Traditional)**

2018 to 2019 3.4% Increase 2019 to 2020 3.4% Increase

#### **On-Line Retail Sales**

 2018 to 2019
 15% Increase

 2019 to 2020
 32% Increase

# The Growth of Health Retail





# CANDID awaken<sup>MD</sup>

FORWARD

restore

# ∦ invisalign<sup>∙</sup>

...one medical

# ORANGETWIST

Your Treatment Shop

# Health Retail Facts

- 69% of US Adults visited a Health Care provider located at a shopping center in 2020 (Avg 3.6 visits per year)
- Visits were mostly to Primary Care, Dentists, Diagnostic and Urgent Care
- 41% of those who visited Health Care providers at a shopping center now shop there more often

 74% shopped at other retail tenants during a visit to a Health Care provider **Proposed & Revised Zoning Text Change** 

- Allow up to 20% 10% of the Ground Floor (up to 30,000 15,025 sf) to be used for Medical Office Retail Health Uses
- Increase the Site-Wide Office Cap from 15% to 30%
   21.4% to accommodate the Ground Floor Medical Office Retail Health Uses.

*Current Office Cap:* 25,800 sf (15% of total sf)

**Proposed Office Cap:** <u>30,000</u> 15,025 sf Ground FI Health Retail (max)

21,500 sf Second FI Office (max)

51,600 36,579 sf (21.4% 30% of total sf)

**Reduction in Allowed SF to 10%** 

UNDERSTANDABLE AND ACCEPTABLE

### Additional Restrictions Recommended by City Council and Staff

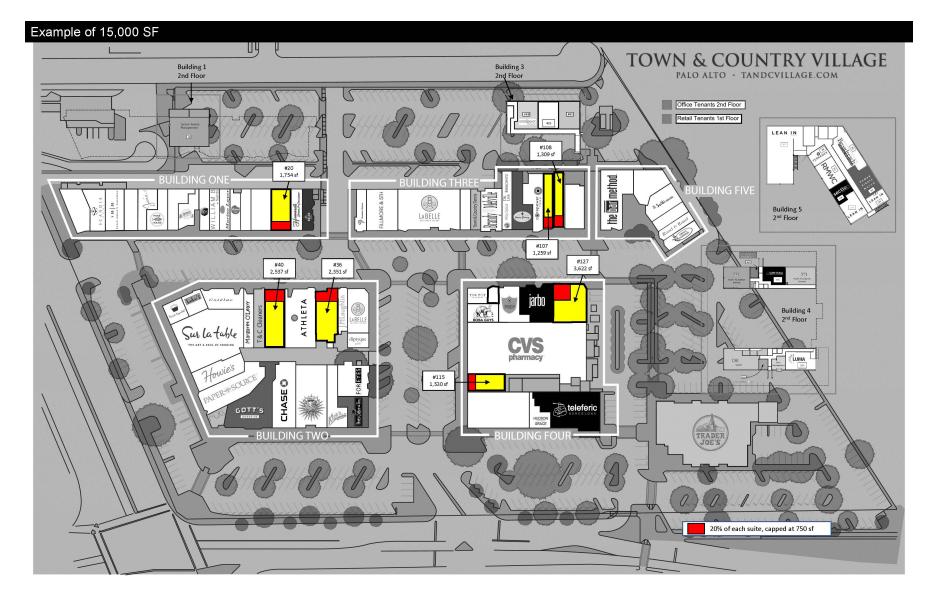
- Limit uses to those that comply with Retail Health definition
- Retail Health uses would NOT be on El Camino and Embarcadero frontages
- Maximum square feet (SF) per tenant of 5,000 SF
- Entry/reception area required to be 15% of tenant SF
- Storefront transparency requirements

#### UNDERSTANDABLE AND ACCEPTABLE

Additional Restrictions/Clarifications Recommended by PTC on May 12

- Further limit Retail Health definition to exclude Emergency Services and Urgent Care
- Require that Front of House be a Retail Sales Area, and not just a reception area
- Increase Retail Sales Area to 20% of tenant SF
- Clarifications regarding re-leasing Retail Health spaces UNDERSTANDABLE AND ACCEPTABLE, with one minor requested change:
- Allow Urgent Care services, if associated with a Primary Care use

#### Example of Potential Site Plan with 15,000sf of Health Retail



#### Potential Impacts to Palo Alto Sales Tax Revenue

- Average Annual Sales Tax Revenue from Town & Country\*: \$637,000
- Potential Reduction in Annual Sales Tax Revenue if ALL <del>30,000</del> 15,025 sf was leased to Health Retail: <del>\$78,000</del> \$39,000 (Worst Case)
- Worst Case Reduction in T&C Sales Tax: <u>12%-6.1% (39k/637k)</u>
- Worst Case Reduction in City-Wide Sales Tax: <1% <0.5%</li>

Health Retail tenants would drive much needed foot traffic to T&C and, in the absence of other new tenants, will boost retail sales, prevent more tenant failures and increase sales tax revenues!

