

Planning Commission Staff Report

Date:

January 11, 2012

Case No.:

SP 10-006 AMEND

Type:

Sign Program Amendment

Applicant:

Rite Aid

Location:

111 South Sunrise Way

APN:

508-100-055

General Plan:

TRC (Tourist Resort Commercial)

Zone:

Section 14 Master Plan - RA (Resort Attraction)

From:

Craig A. Ewing, AICP, Director of Planning Services

Project Planner:

David A. Newell, Associate Planner

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The applicant is seeking approval of a sign program amendment for an existing commercial complex located at the southwest corner of Sunrise Way and Tahquitz Canyon Way (111 South Sunrise Way). The proposed amendment includes various directional signage on the building and adjacent to the pick up window.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Planning Commission approve Case No. SP 10-006 AMEND to allow for the installation of directional signage as recommended by the Architectural Advisory Committee (AAC), subject to conditions of approval.

PRIOR ACTIONS:

On October 27, 2010, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the original sign program.

On April 13, 2011, the Planning Commission unanimously approved an amendment to the sign program to allow the installation of an additional monument sign and a reface of an existing sign on a monument sign.

On December 27, 2011, the AAC reviewed the proposed amendment to install directional signs and by a vote of 5-0 recommended approval of the amendment with the following conditions:

- 1. Sign Nos. 6, 7 and 11 to be omitted from plan;
- 2. Sign No. 8 to have a maximum letter height of twelve inches.

See discussion on AAC recommendation below.

BACKGROUND:

The site is approximately 3.8-acres in size and bounded by streets on three sides; East Tahquitz Canyon Way on the north, South Sunrise Way on the east, and Arenas Road on the south. To the west, the property abuts a vacant lot.

On November 27, 2008, the Planning Commission approved the Conditional Use Permit to construct a medical office building and pharmacy on the subject site. Both buildings have been completed and occupied.

The original sign program was approved by the Planning Commission on October 27, 2010. All of the monument and wall signs have been installed on the buildings.

Surrounding land uses, Zoning, and General Plan designations are detailed below:

	Land Use	General Plan	Zoning
North	Vacant (Future	TRC (Tourist Resort	Section 14 Master Plan –
	Shopping Center)	Commercial)	RA (Resort Attraction)
South		HDR (High Density	Section 14 Master Plan -
	Facility	Residential)	HR (High Density
			Residential)
East	Commercial	NCC (Neighborhood /	C-1 (Central Retail
	Shopping Center	Community Commercial)	Business Zone)
West	Vacant	TRC (Tourist Resort	Section 14 Master Plan –
		Commercial)	RA (Resort Attraction)

ANALYSIS:

Rite Aid is in the process of installing a pick up window on the southerly portion of the pharmacy building and is seeking approval to install directional signage on and adjacent to the building. Staff has provided a summary of all proposed signage in the table below.

Sign No.	Description	Size
6	"Pharmacy Pick Up →" LED illuminated	19.1 sq. ft.
7	"Pharmacy Pick Up →" LED illuminated	19.1 sq. ft.
8	"Pharmacy Pick Up" LED illuminated	15.6 sq. ft.
9a	"Clearance 10'-0"" Non-illuminated	3 sq. ft.
9b	"Pick Up" Non-illuminated	1.5 sq. ft.
9c	"Drop Off" Non-illuminated	1.5 sq. ft.
9d	"Exit Only" Non-illuminated	1.5 sq. ft.
9e	Exit Only" Non-illuminated	2.3 sq. ft.
10	Double-face Non-illuminated freestanding "→ Pharmacy Pick Up" "→ Pharmacy Pick Up"	4 sq. ft.
11	Double-face Non-illuminated freestanding "→ Pharmacy Pick Up" "Thank You For Shopping RITE AID"	4 sq. ft.

Pursuant to Section 93.20.10(B)(1) of the Zoning Code, signs for safety and convenience are permitted as follows:

When deemed necessary, the director of planning and building may authorize and approve signs not to exceed five (5) square feet per face to serve the public safety or convenience, such as "Entrance" signs, "Exit" signs, and "Parking" signs.

Sign Nos. 6 and 7 are not considered convenience signs since they are larger than five square feet and meant to be seen from the adjacent streets. Sign No. 8 is also larger than five square feet. The applicant is proposing these deviations as part of the sign program.

AAC Recommendation:

The AAC recommended approval of the proposal with the exception of Sign Nos. 6, 7 and 11, and the modification of Sign No. 8. The applicant has agreed to eliminate Sign No. 11 and modify Sign No. 8, but would like to retain Sign Nos. 6 and 7. The applicant has prepared a response stating their plea to keep these signs (see attached email).

Staff supports the AAC's recommendation as it will reduce signage that is inconsistent with the Zoning Code's standards. Should the Commission agree, the only deviation would be Sign No. 8 which exceeds the five-square foot maximum. A Condition of Approval consistent with AAC recommendation has been included in the draft resolution.

REQUIRED FINDINGS:

Section 93.20.05(C)(6) stipulates three findings that are required for a sign program to be approved that deviates from the strict provisions of the Sign Ordinance. Staff has analyzed the required findings in order below:

 Due to the physical characteristics of the property and the orientation and design of the structures on the property, strict application of the regulations of the sign ordinance will not give adequate visibility to the signage.

The proposed signage that deviates from the Zoning Code will be located on a building that is surrounded by driveways and parking areas. The proposed signage is for a pick up window which is located at the rear of the building. Therefore, due to the physical site layout and building orientation, strict application of the sign ordinance may not provide adequate directional signage for the building users.

2) The approved program will be compatible with the design of the property and will represent the least departure from the standards of the sign ordinance necessary for the effectiveness of the program.

The sign program allows for architectural compatibility with the existing structure as it will use common directional signage and will provide a simple, uniform design. Since almost all of the proposed signs will conform to the sign area requirements, it is believed the signs, as conditioned, would represent only a minor departure from the ordinance while providing an effective sign program for the pharmacy building.

3) The approved program is compatible with the surrounding property and not contrary to the purpose of the sign ordinance.

The stated purpose of the sign ordinance as provided by Section 93.20.02(B) "is to provide standards to safeguard life, health, property and the public welfare and to provide the means for adequate identification of business and other sign users by regulating and controlling the design, location and maintenance of all signs in the city".

The sign ordinance encourages adoption of sign programs to provide consistency and ease of permitting for multi-tenant signage. The deviations from the ordinance are for the purpose of providing adequate identification for businesses and sign users; therefore, the proposed sign program is not contrary to the purpose of the sign ordinance, and represents the least departure from the standards of the sign ordinance necessary for the effectiveness of the program.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the above analysis, staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve the sign program amendment as recommended by the Architectural Advisory Committee. A draft resolution with conditions of approval has been attached to this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

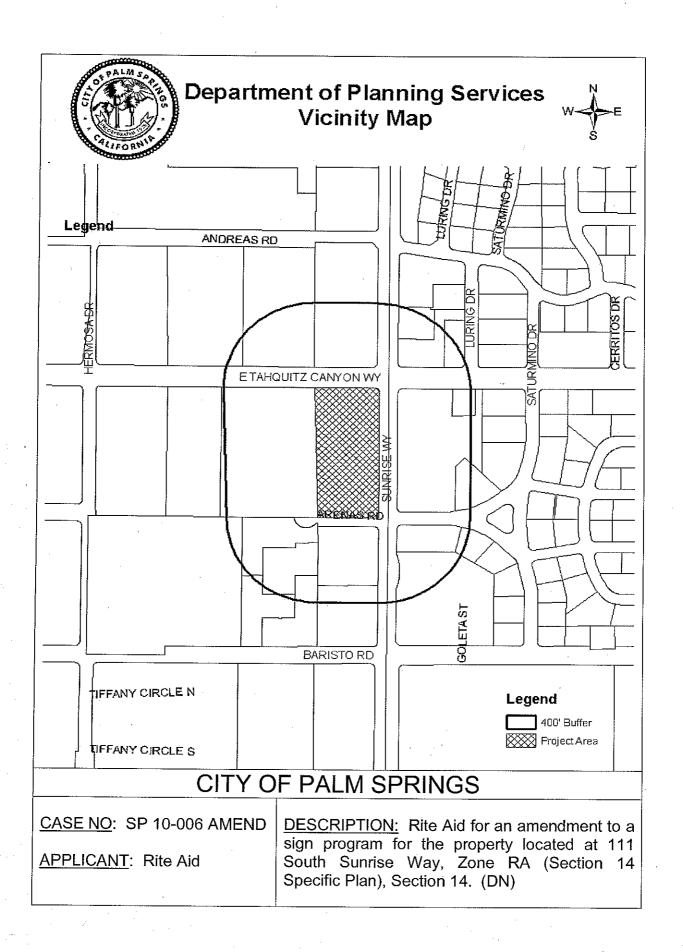
Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the project is Categorically Exempt under Section 15311(a).

David A. Newell Associate Planner

-Craig A. Ewing, AICP Director of Planning Services

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) 400' Radius Map
- 2) Draft Resolution
- 3) Proposed Amendment
- 4) Email from Applicant



RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING CASE SP 10-006 AMEND, AMENDING THE SIGN PROGRAM FOR NEW DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE FOR THE COMMERCIAL COMPLEX LOCATED AT 111 SOUTH SUNRISE WAY.

WHEREAS, Rite Aid (the "Applicant") has filed an application with the City pursuant to Section 93.20.05(C)(6) of the Sign Ordinance for a sign program amendment to allow directional signage for the pick up window at the commercial complex located at 111 South Sunrise Way, APN: 508-100-055, Zone RA (Section 14 Specific Plan), Section 14; and

WHEREAS, notice of public meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Palm Springs to consider Case No. SP 10-006 AMEND was given in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, on December 27, 2011, a public meeting on the application for a recommendation was held by the Architectural Advisory Committee in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2012, a public meeting on the application for review and action was held by the Planning Commission in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is considered a "project" pursuant to the terms of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), and has been determined to be Categorically Exempt as a Class 11 exemption (accessory structures) pursuant to Section 15311(a) of the CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has carefully reviewed and considered all of the evidence presented in connection with the hearing on the project, including, but not limited to, the staff report, and all written and oral testimony presented.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION HEREBY FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1:</u> Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the project is Categorically Exempt under Section 15311(a)(Accessory Structures).

<u>Section 2</u>: Section 93.20.05(C)(6) stipulates three findings that are required for a sign program to be approved that deviates from the strict provisions of the Sign Ordinance. The Planning Commission finds that:

 Due to the physical characteristics of the property and the orientation and design of the structures on the property, strict application of the regulations of the sign ordinance will not give adequate visibility to the signage.

The proposed signage that deviates from the Zoning Code will be located on a building that is surrounded by driveways and parking areas. The proposed signage is for a pick up window which is located at the rear of the building. Therefore, due to the physical site layout and building orientation, strict application of the sign ordinance may not provide adequate directional signage for the building users.

2) The approved program will be compatible with the design of the property and will represent the least departure from the standards of the sign ordinance necessary for the effectiveness of the program.

The sign program allows for architectural compatibility with the existing structure as it will use common directional signage and will provide a simple, uniform design. Since almost all of the proposed signs will conform to the sign area requirements, it is believed the signs, as conditioned, would represent only a minor departure from the ordinance while providing an effective sign program for the pharmacy building.

3) The approved program is compatible with the surrounding property and not contrary to the purpose of the sign ordinance.

The stated purpose of the sign ordinance as provided by Section 93.20.02(B) "is to provide standards to safeguard life, health, property and the public welfare and to provide the means for adequate identification of business and other sign users by regulating and controlling the design, location and maintenance of all signs in the city".

The sign ordinance encourages adoption of sign programs to provide consistency and ease of permitting for multi-tenant signage. The deviations from the ordinance are for the purpose of providing adequate identification for businesses and sign users; therefore, the proposed sign program is not contrary to the purpose of the sign ordinance, and represents the least departure from the standards of the sign ordinance necessary for the effectiveness of the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, based upon the foregoing, the Planning Commission hereby approves Case No. SP 11-009, a sign program amendment to allow directional signage on and adjacent to the building located at 111 South Sunrise Way, subject to the conditions set forth in Planning Commission Resolution 6158 and the following:

1. A separate sign permit shall be required for all directional signage approved under this program.

- 2. Prior to the issuance of any sign permits, the applicant shall revise and resubmit three copies of the sign program amendment plans as follows:
 - a. Sign Nos. 6, 7 and 11 shall be eliminated from plans.
 - b. Sign No. 8 shall be revised to a maximum overall letter height of twelve inches.

ADOPTED this 11th day of January, 2012.

ATTEST:

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

AYES: NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Craig A. Ewing, AICP
Director of Planning Services

1/64"=1'

85434 Rite Aid 111 S Sunrise Way

Quality Grade 2 - Commercial

JONES SIGN

SHOPDRAWING

Square Footage Face

Voltage/ Circuit n/a

Lighting n/a

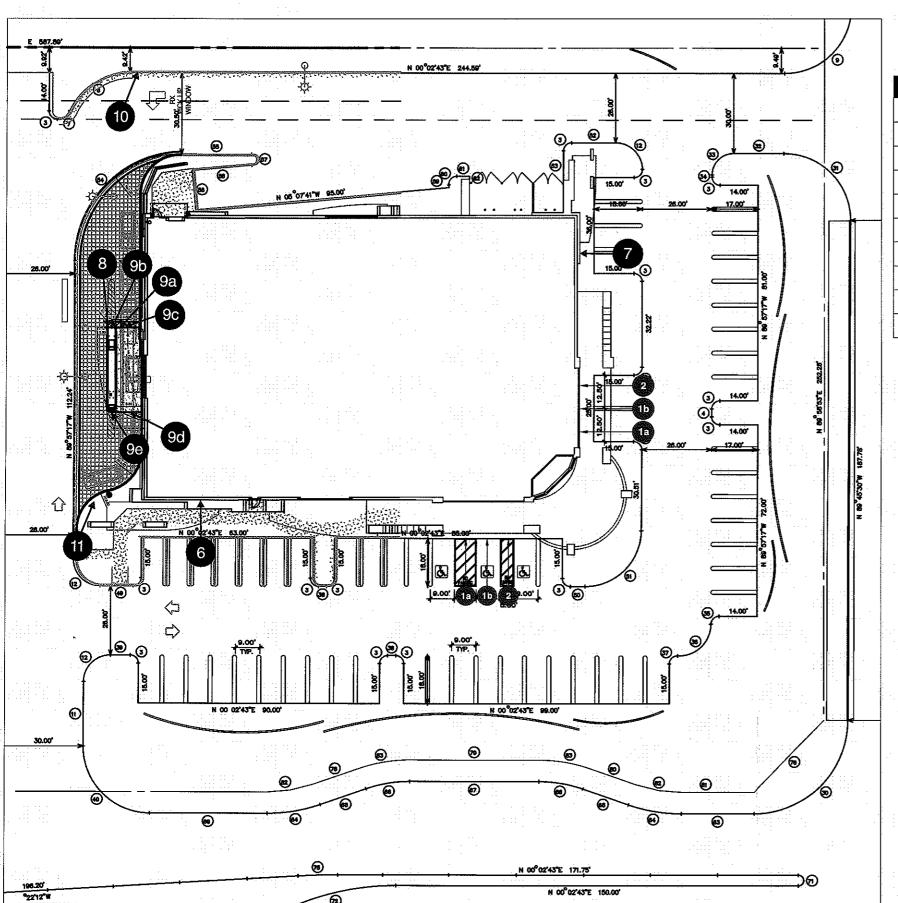
Amps n/a

Mounting n/a

Pole Anchoring Footing n/a

n/a

Palm Springs, CA



PROPOSED SIGNS

Sign #	Description				
6	13" Pharmacy Pick Up Bldg Letterset w/ Arrow CUSTOM				
7	13" Pharmacy Pick Up Bldg Letterset w/ Arrow CUSTOM				
8	13" Pharmacy Pick Up Bldg Letterset CUSTOM				
9a	8" Non-Illum. Clearance 10 Feet				
9b	8" Non-Illum. Pick-up				
9c	8" Non-Illum. Drop-off				
9d	8" Non-Illum. Exit Only				
9e	18" Non-Illum, Exit Only				
10	Non-Illuminated Directional				
11	Non-Illuminated Directional				

EXISTING SIGNS

Sign #	Description
1a, 1b	36" Primary Channel Letter Set w/ 45" Shield
1a, 1b	36" Primary Channel Letter Set w/ 45" Shield
2	24" Reverse Pan Channel Pharmacy Letters
2	24" Reverse Pan Channel Pharmacy Letters

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	Date
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	Project Manager
	(Nicole Burban
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	Revision Notes
٠.	11.14.11 JS REVISED 'PHARMACY
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	11.17.11 JS REVISED PER MARKUPS
1.11	
	Language Community Community (1997)
:	This Drawing Last Updated on:

11.17.11

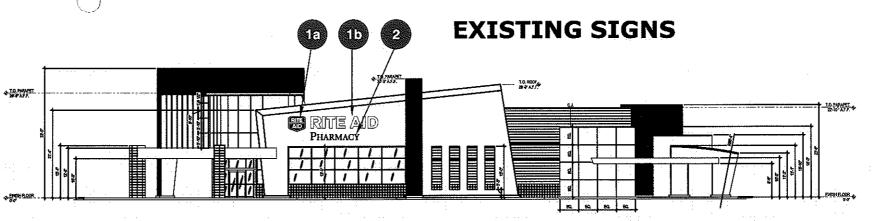
Concept Designer

AECEVED

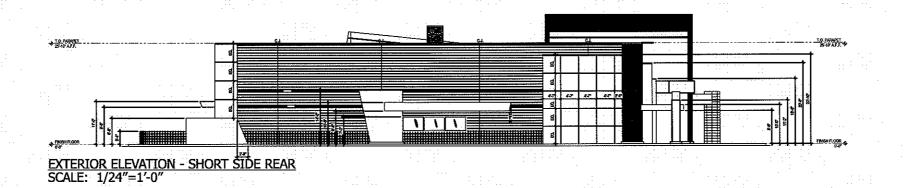
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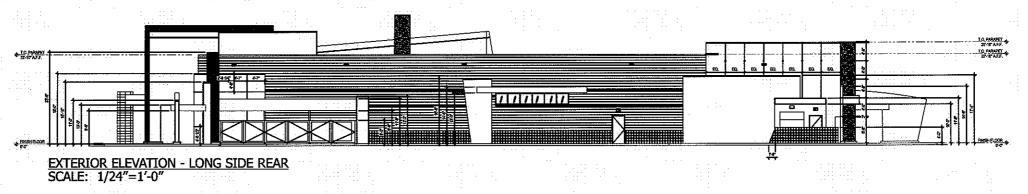
PLANNINGSERVICES

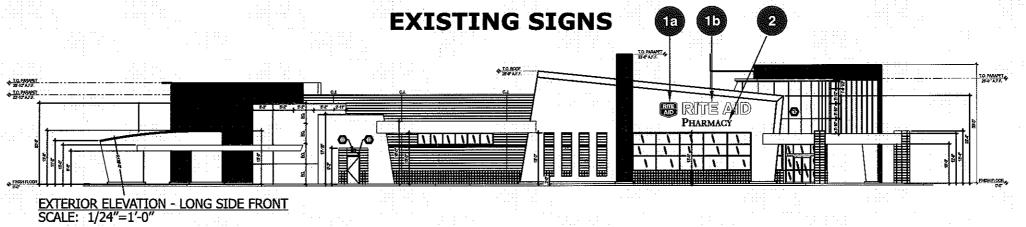




EXTERIOR ELEVATION - SHORT SIDE FRONT SCALE: 1/24"=1'-0"







JONES SIGN

1711 Scheuring Road De Pere, WI 54115 Tel: 920-983-6700 Fax: 920-983-9145



PROJECT



111 Sunrise Way Palm Springs, CA 92262

CUSTOMER APPROVAL

Authorized Signature

(_______

Date: /__/_

REVISIONS

REPRESENTATIVE

Jason Mengert

Drawn By

Rhoda Schley-Diny

DATE

08.17.10

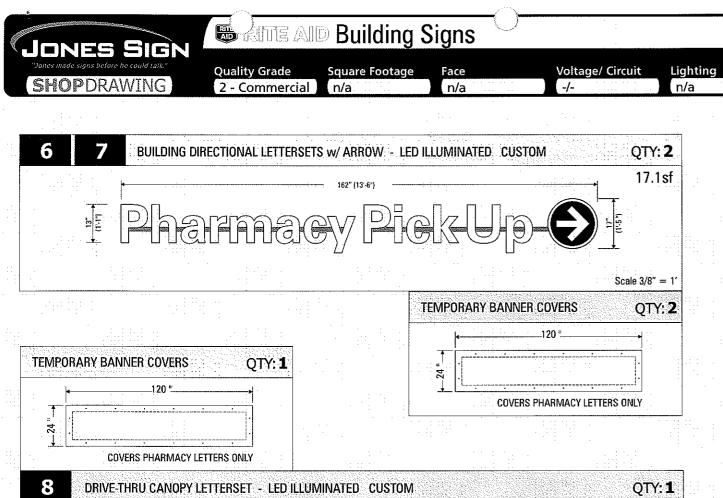
SCALE

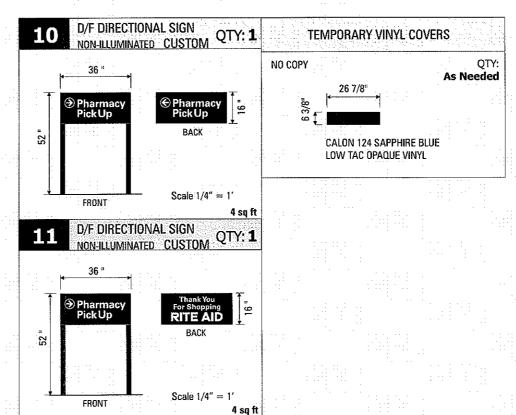
1/24"=1'-0"

SHEET

DRAWING #

75635_r1





Mounting

n/a

Amps

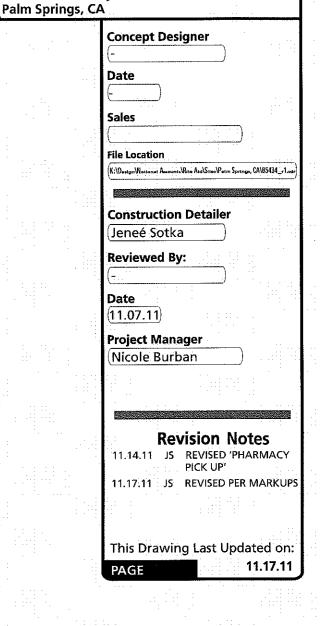
n/a

15.1sf

Scale 3/8" = 1

Pole Anchoring

n/a



85434

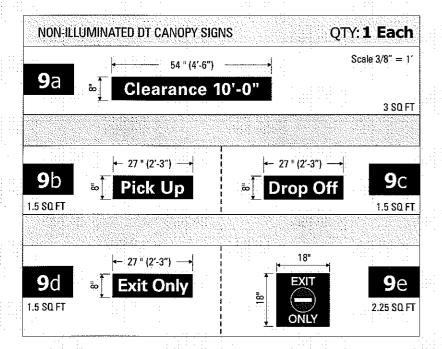
111 S Sunrise Way

Rite Aid

As Noted

Footing

n/a





1/64"=1'

85434 Rite Aid

Quality Grade 2 - Commercial

Square Footage n/a

Face n/a Voltage/ Circuit

Lighting

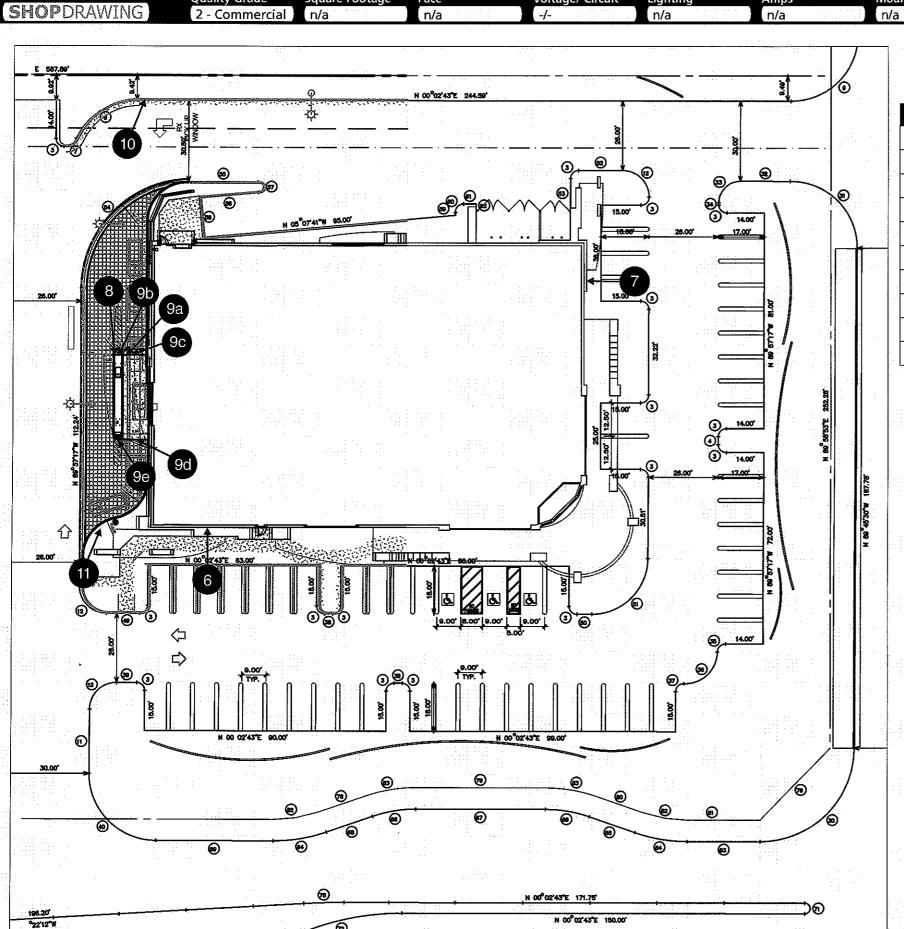
Amps

Mounting

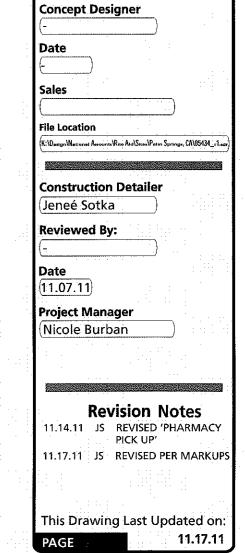
Pole Anchoring n/a

Footing n/a

111 S Sunrise Way Palm Springs, CA



 Sign #	Description			
6	13" Pharmacy Pick Up Bldg Letterset w/ Arrow CUSTOM			
· . 7	13" Pharmacy Pick Up Bldg Letterset w/ Arrow CUSTOM			
8	13" Pharmacy Pick Up Bldg Letterset CUSTOM			
9a	8" Non-Illum. Clearance 10 Feet			
9b	8" Non-Illum. Pick-up			
9c	8" Non-Illum. Drop-off			
9d	8" Non-Illum. Exit Only			
9e	18" Non-Illum. Exit Only			
10	Non-Illuminated Directional			
11	Non-Illuminated Directional			



The AID 13" Channel Letter Set - 13" x 13' -6" - with Arrow (Qty:2) CUSTOM

3/4"=1'

Footing

n/a

85434 Rite Aid 111 S Sunrise Way

SHOPDRAWING

Quality Grade 2 - Commercial

Square Footage 14.64

Voltage/ Circuit Face Single 120V/1 - 20A

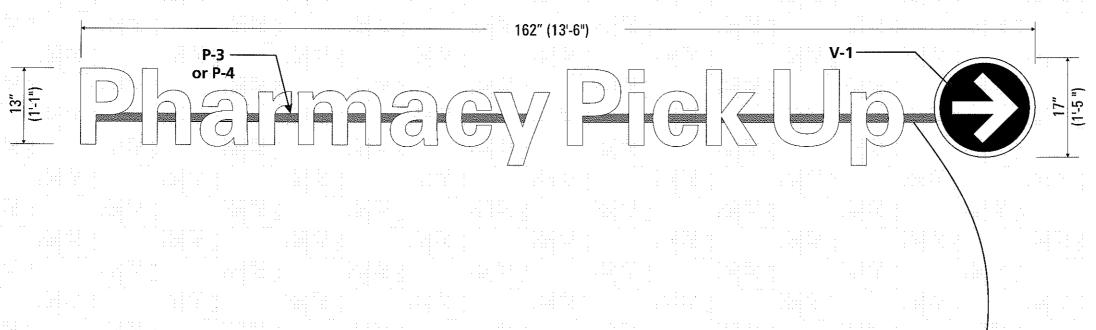
Lighting External Amps 2.5A

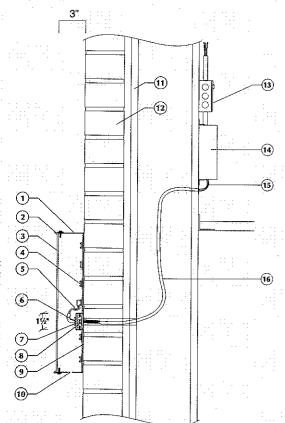
Mounting Wall Bracket Pole Anchoring n/a

Palm Springs, CA

SQUARE FOOTAGE

'Drive Thru Pharmacy' w/ Arrow = 14.64 SQ.FT.

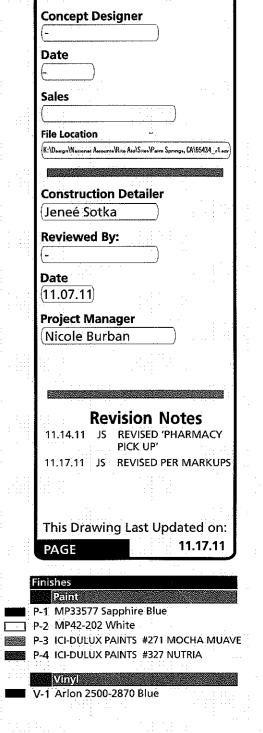


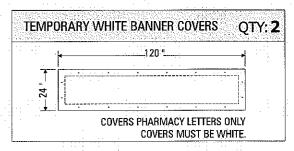


#'s	MATERIAL LIST				
1	3" x .040 pre-finished Blue/White letter locked to aluminum letter b		er coil		
2	1" Blue jewelite trim cap				
3	.125 #2447 White plex faces		.:		
4	Sloan Mini White LED's silicone	ed to letter bac	ks		
5	Low voltage wiring from power	er supply.			
6	Pre-drilled electrical hole w/pl	lastic gromme	t.		:
7	1" x 2" x 1/8" Aluminum Racewa	ay.			
8	Masonry fasteners (min. 3 per	r raceway).			
9	.063 pre-finished black/white alur	minum backs			
10	1/4" Weep holes at low points	s of letters.		:	
11	Sheathing by others.				
12	Building facade. CMU - Brick.	Тур.			
13	4" x 4" Handy Box with Switch		:		
14	#12 THHN primary wire		:		
15	Power supply remotely located ((120volt circuit r	equ'd.)		
16	High voltage rated flexible wir	re sleeve.	:		

Wireways Fabricated .080" aluminum which is flush with the back of the channel letters. Raceway passes thru the letters. Paint Qty(1) P-3 Paint Qty(1) P-4 See following page for fabrication details

Access to rear of facade to be by others Note: All penetrations to be sealed with BIOSTOP 500+ Intumescent Firestop Sealant to meet NEC #300.21, ASTM #E814, UL #1479 and UL #2079 standards.







EXTERIO 13" Channel Letter Set - 13" x 11' -8" - w/o Arrow (Qty:1) CUSTOM

85434 Rite Aid

3/4"=1'

Footing

n/a

Quality Grade 2 - Commercial

Square Footage 12.64

Face Single Voltage/ Circuit Lighting 120V/1 - 20A External

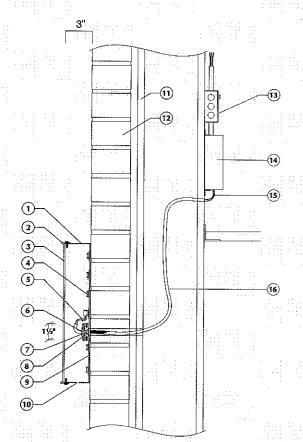
Amps 2.5A Mounting Wall Bracket Pole Anchoring n/a

111 S Sunrise Way Palm Springs, CA

SQUARE FOOTAGE

'Drive Thru Pharmacy' w/o Arrow = 12.64 SQ.FT.

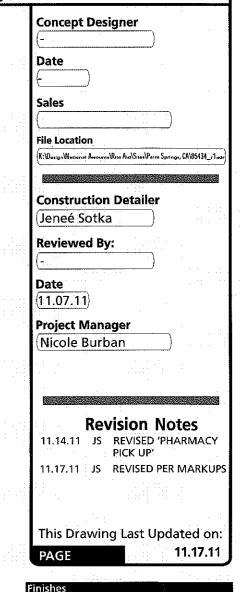
140" (11'-8")

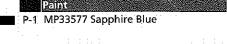


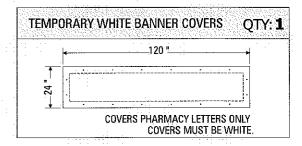
		2000
#'s	MATERIAL LIST	
1	3" x .040 pre-finished Blue/White aluminum letter coil letter locked to aluminum letter backs.	
2	1" Blue jewelite trim cap	
3	.125 #2447 White plex faces	
4	Sloan Mini White LED's siliconed to letter backs	
5	Low voltage wiring from power supply.	
6	Pre-drilled electrical hole w/plastic grommet.	
7	1" x 2" x 1/8" Aluminum Raceway.	
8	Masonry fasteners (min. 3 per raceway).	* **** **** ***** ***** ***** ***** ****
9	.063 pre-finished black/white aluminum backs	. 4
10	1/4" Weep holes at low points of letters.	·
11	Sheathing by others.	;
12	Building facade. Aluminum Panels. Typ.	
13	4" x 4" Handy Box with Switch	- 1
14	#12 THHN primary wire	
15	Power supply remotely located (120volt circuit requ'd.)	
16	High voltage rated flexible wire sleeve.	1
		111111

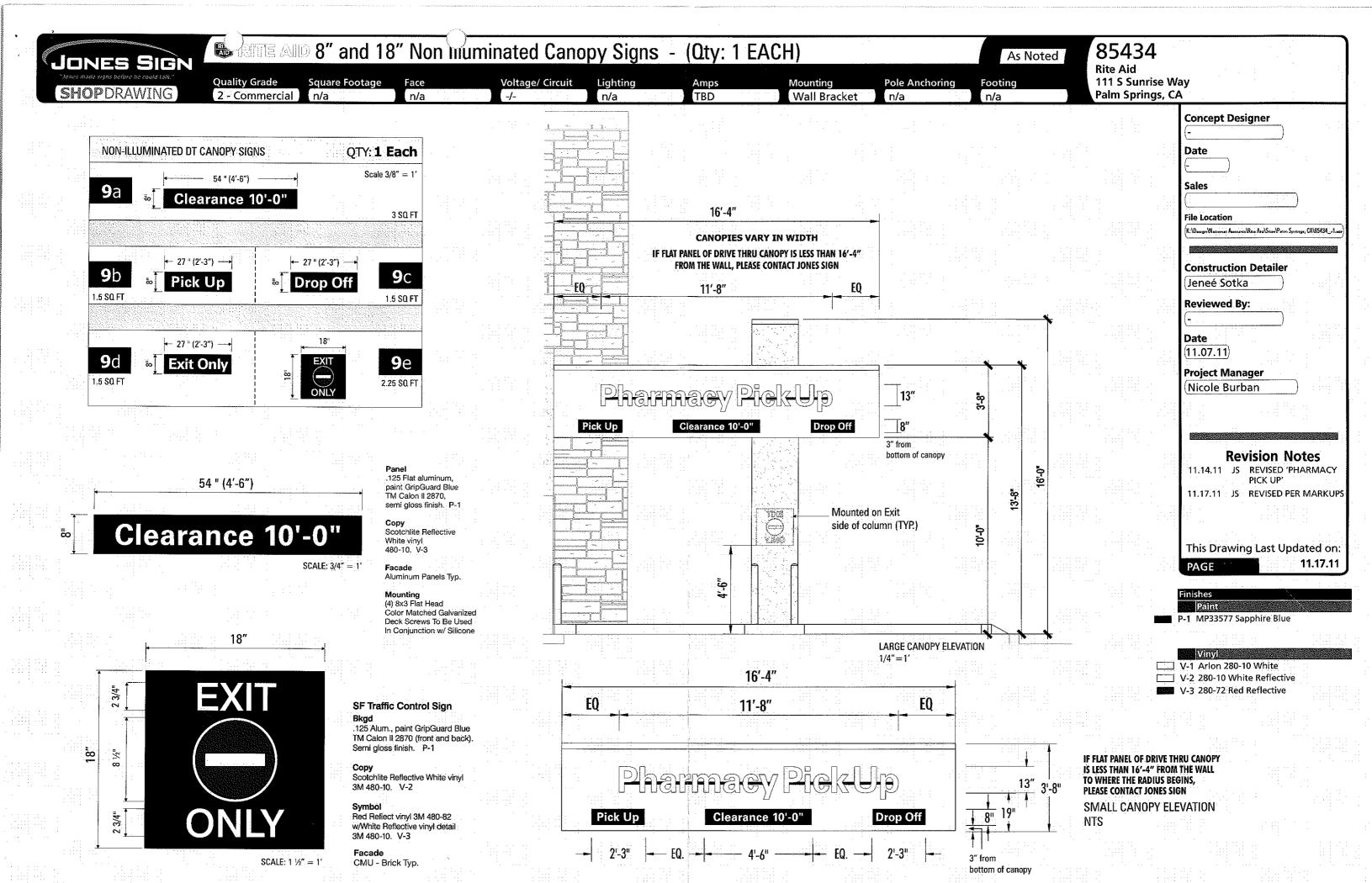
Wireways Fabricated .080 aluminum which is flush with the back of the channel letters. Raceway passes thru the letters. Painted P-1. See following page for fabrication details

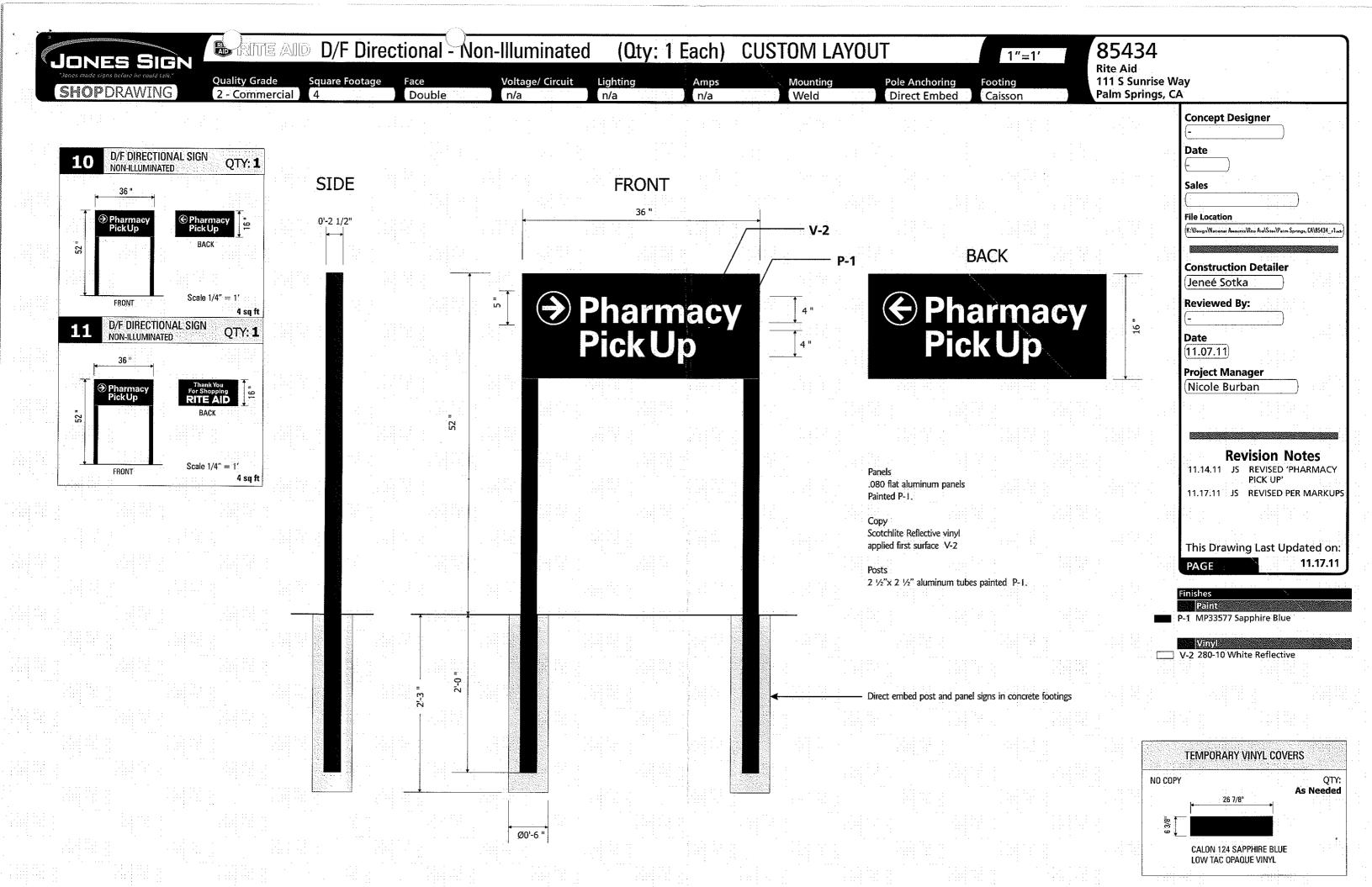
Access to rear of facade to be by others. Note: All penetrations to be sealed with BIOSTOP 500+ Intumescent Firestop Sealant to meet NEC #300.21, ASTM #E814, UL #1479 and UL #2079 standards.

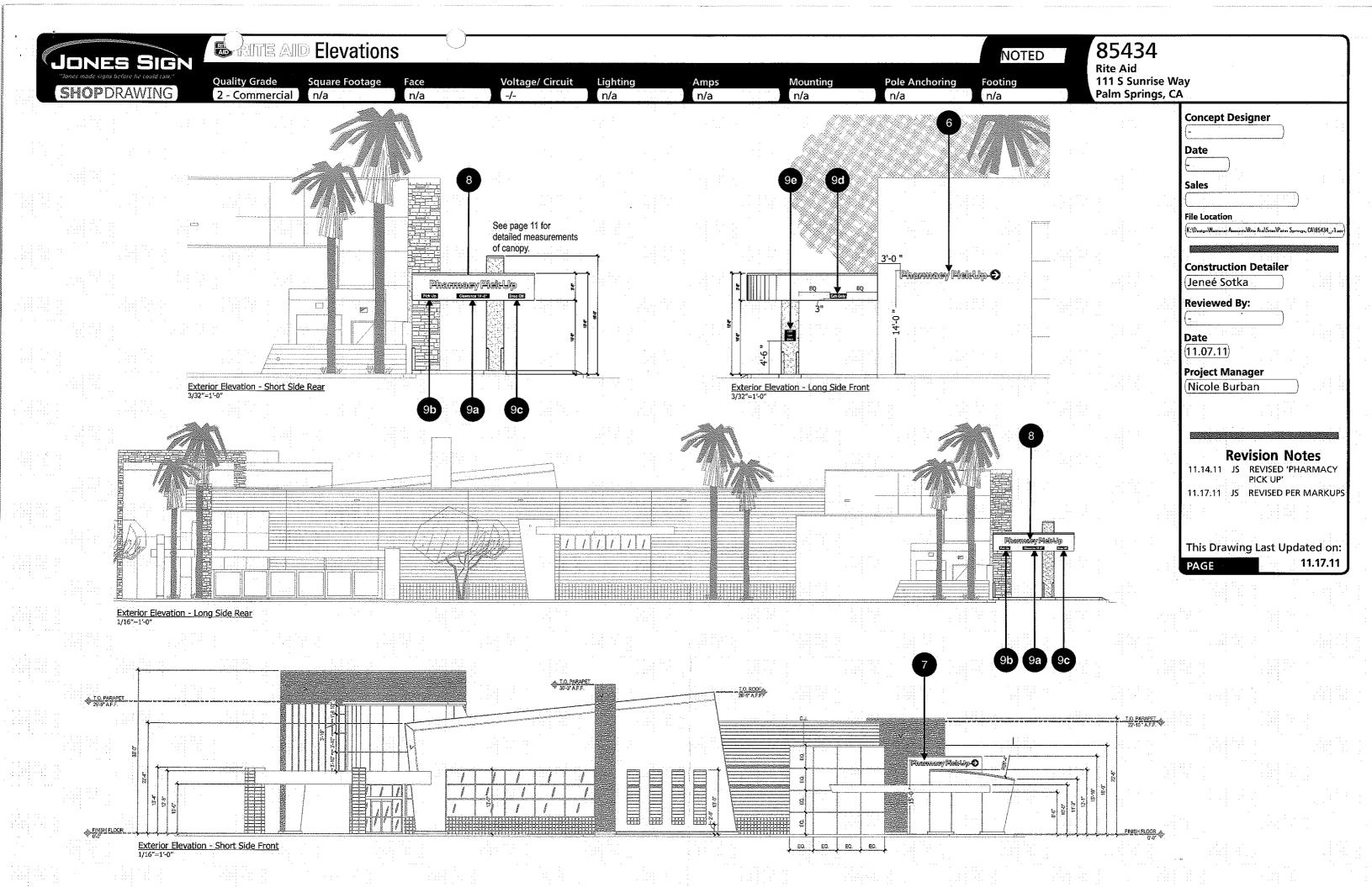




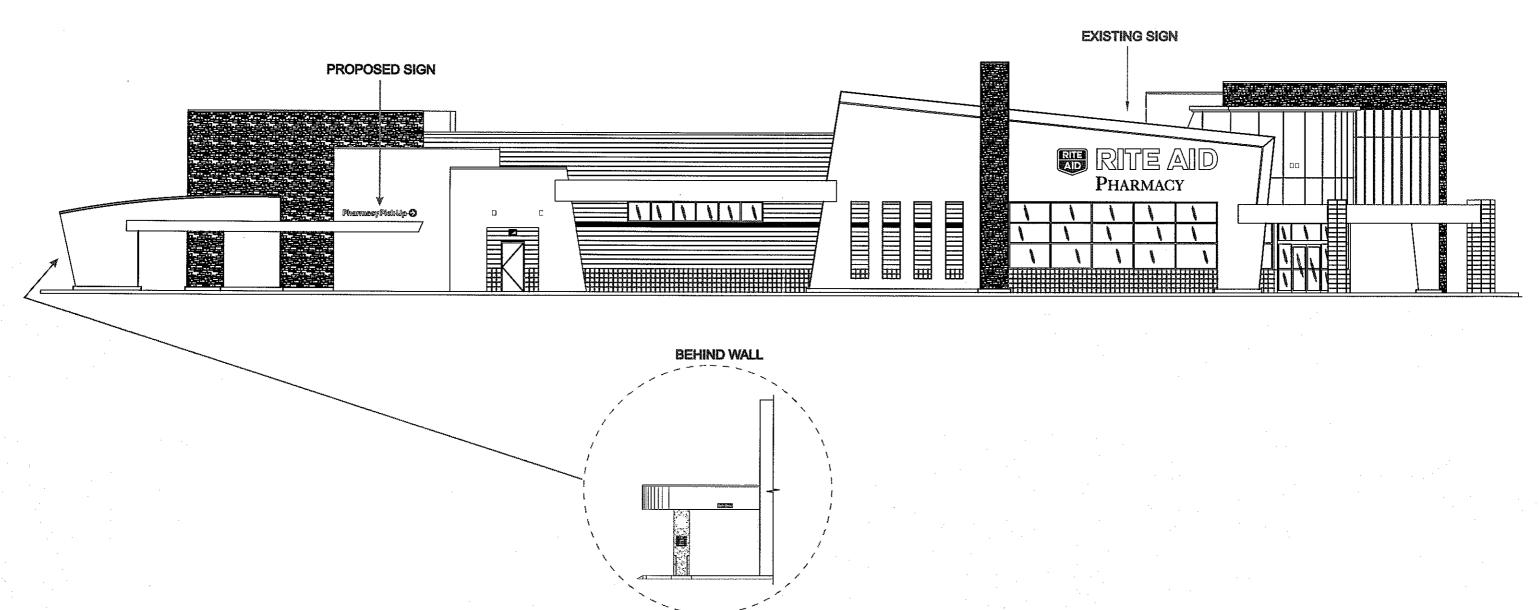








EXTERIOR ELEVATION - LONG SIDE FRONT



JONES SIGN

1711 Scheuring Road De Pere, WI 54115 Tel: 920-983-6700 Fax: 920-983-9145 www.jonessign.com









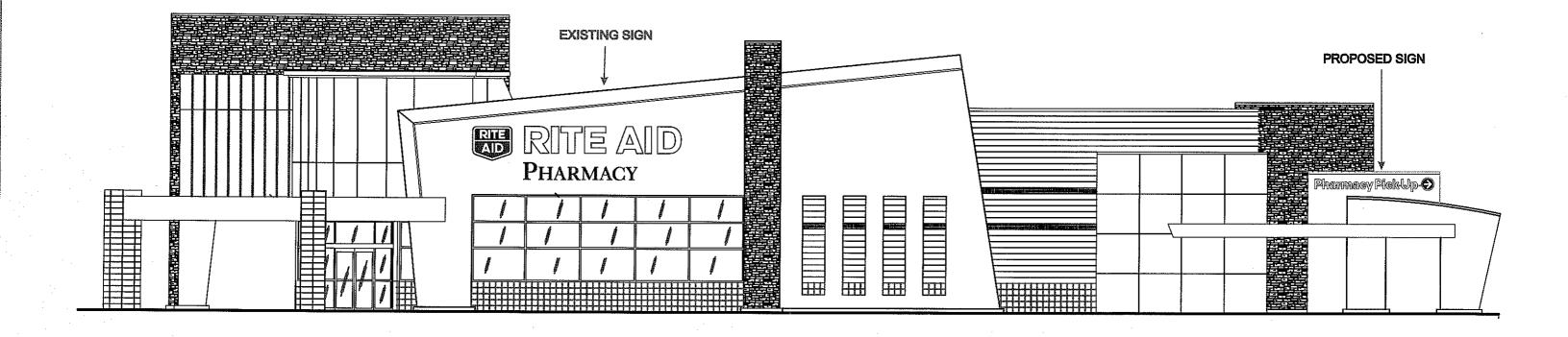


RECEIVED

DEC 2 9 2011

PLANNING SERVICES nedadfaren

EXTERIOR ELEVATION - SHORT SIDE FRONT



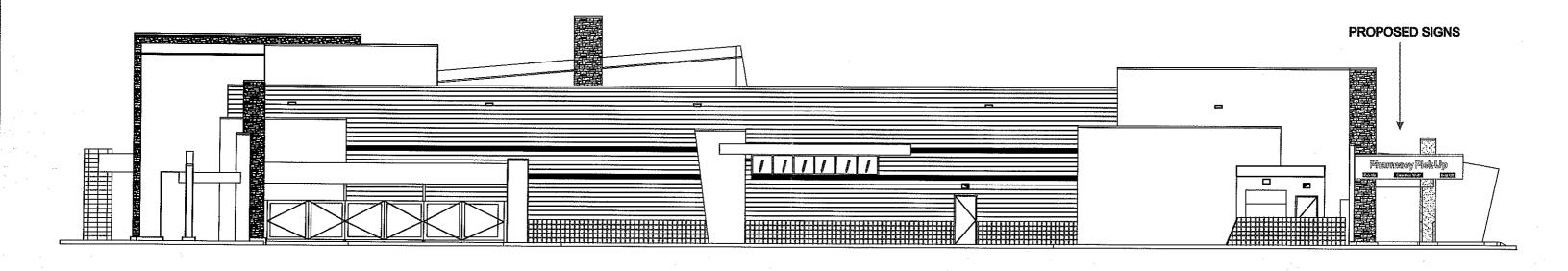


RECEIVED

DEC 2 9 2011

PLANNING SERVICES DEDADTATA

EXTERIOR ELEVATION - LONG SIDE REAR





FECTIVED!

DEC 2 9 2011

PLANNING SERVICES

David Newell

From: Sergio Meiron [sergio@imagesystemssigns.com]

Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2011 3:48 PM

To: David Newell

Subject: Re: Palm Springs Planning Case SP 10-006 AMEND - Rite Aid Drive-thru Signage

David,

Following below is a better explanation for the additional signs:

The illuminated Pharmacy Pick Up wall signs are for the main purpose of directing traffic safely to the drive thru at the site.

The signs are located on the building so traffic can be directed safely around the building directing customers where to go to get to the drive-thru so there is no confusing.

It is a large building so the signs are used to show the correct way around the building to enter the drive-thru.

They will be easily seen and recognized so the customer is aware on how to proceed to the pharmacy drive-thru.

The signs are used to avoid any accidents in the parking lot and for safety for all customers.

The signage will be in good taste consistent on the building elevations, pleasing to the eye, architecturally flowing and on the exterior wall of the building.

The request for these drive thru/directional signs is being requested to better suit the public in way finding, which affects safety for the community as a whole. These signs are for the purpose of directing traffic safely thru the drive thru at the site.

Five (5) of the signs are small, non-illuminated signs installed over the drive thru canopy used to have traffic flow easily and carefully so there is no confusion as how to enter or exit the drive thru.

The clearance sign will let customers know that if they are in a large vehicle that it may not fit thru the drive thru and they should not enter it or may cause damage.

These signs are not for advertising but are used for liability and safety reasons.

These signs will be placed in a location that will not be vision issues but rather will aid the traveling consumer.

The 4 Sq. Ft Drive Thru Pharmacy non-illuminated directional signs are for the purpose of directing traffic safely thru the parking lot.

The property has multiple frontages with enter/exit areas resulting in a need for identification/way finding signage to direct people on the property safely.

Rite Aid has a standard signage package that allows them to fully represent their corporate identity and also their services to the consumer public.

Rite Aid stores are nationwide, all with the same look/feel that has become their corporate identity.

Thànk you.

Sergio Meiron

Image Systems Signs, Inc.
www.ImageSystemsUSA.com
Sergio@ImageSystemsSigns.com

T: 323.931.6630 F: 323.931.8004 M: 323.864.1800

On Thu, Dec 29, 2011 at 10:35 AM, David Newell < David.Newell@palmsprings-ca.gov > wrote:

Sergio,

As you are aware, the Architectural Advisory Committee recommended approval of the subject project with the following conditions:

- 1. Sign Numbers 6, 7 and 11 to be omitted from plan;
- 2. Sign Number 8 to have a maximum letter height of twelve inches.

Do you accept all or part of this recommendation? If so, when can I expect the revised exhibits that reflect these changes?

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