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# Wrigley plant purchase pending

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**SANTA CRUZ** — The Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co. plant is in escrow to be sold to Western Hospital Properties of Emeryville, a real estate asset-based corporation.

The 400,000-square-foot building, where chewing gum was produced until recently, will become a business park, divided for manufacturing, executive offices and public warehousing, said John Panattoni of Western Hospital Properties.

Panattoni declined to disclose the selling price for the compound, located on Mission Street at the far western reaches of Santa Cruz. It was originally listed for sale by J.R. Parrish for \$12.5 million.

The manufacturing tenant hasn't been selected, but the company is "talking seriously" to two candidates, both in food manufacturing, and expects a decision next week, said Panattoni.

Another approximate 100,000 square feet of the building will be for public warehousing with onsite management, he said. Industrial and commercial businesses will lease space for inventory, which will be managed by Western Hospital Properties.

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## Wrigley sale pending

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"People can come in with small amounts of inventory; we'll have the forklift and drive, and will do inventory controls, faxing orders — all that," said Panattoni.

Executive offices with accounting and secretarial services will be included in the building, he said.

Panattoni said the company

hopes to retain the Wrigley name, and call it the "The Wrigley Park."

The Wrigley company ended 42 years of production in March as part of a move to consolidate operations, and put the building up for sale. An earlier bidder on the property, Barry Swenson Builders of San Jose, dropped out of escrow.

The Wrigley Co., the first nationally known firm to locate in Santa

Cruz, opened the plant in 1945 and expanded the building in 1971.

Escrow is due to close within 30 days, although the Western Hospital group has already taken possession of the building, Panattoni said.

The building is currently being "sanitized and landscaped and cleaned and painted," he said. "It will look like a new building."