

PLACER VINEYARDS

Draft Blueprint Specific Plan
Placer County, California

Draft-December 2006



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The *Placer County General Plan* and the *Dry Creek/West Placer Community Plan* require the preparation of this Specific Plan to allow development of this area west of Walerga Road. Exhibit 1 of the General Plan designates Placer Vineyards as the “West Placer Specific Plan Area,” subject to various development standards. The Placer Vineyards Specific Plan is intended to provide a mechanism to ensure that the entire 5,230 acre Placer Vineyards Specific Plan Area, henceforth called Plan Area, will be comprehensively planned.

The policies and guidelines contained in this Specific Plan and its adoption represent the first step in the approval process. This Specific Plan outlines future steps and approvals that will be required before development in the Plan Area occurs. It addresses land use, the sequencing of development and implementation measures that will ensure public infrastructure and implementation of services occur concurrently with new development.

Build-out of the Plan Area is anticipated to occur over a 20–30-year period. This Specific Plan attempts to balance the need for a coherent long-term vision with the equally important need to provide flexibility to accommodate changes in community needs and environmental regulations, to address specific site conditions, to simplify the review and implementation process by Placer County, and to accommodate other factors that will influence development during the build-out of the Plan Area.

In addition to the requirement that the Specific Plan conform to the *Placer County General Plan* and the directives of General Plan Exhibit 1, Placer Vineyards is designed to be a self-sufficient community guided by the following design principles (shown in bold font) and associated plan actions (described in further detail in the subsequent chapters of the Specific Plan).

1. Promote a mixed use, compact development pattern linked to regional transportation systems.

Placer Vineyards is planned to accommodate the long term growth needs of Placer County by establishing a series of concentrated urban centers and a mix of residential neighborhood developments uniquely situated around public amenities, employment, housing, shopping, recreational uses, and multiple transportation options. The Plan Area will be connected through a regional bus rapid transit system, a transit center located on Watt Avenue within the East Village Center, and through a system of on- and off-street trails, linked into the regional trail system.

2. Create a livable, pedestrian-friendly environment with a distinct community identity and sense of place. Create safe and accessible links between neighborhoods, centers, and districts within the Plan Area and the surrounding community.

Placer Vineyards is designed to provide schools, parks, public facilities, and activity centers as focal points for its neighborhoods and communities, with emphasis on pedestrian access and activity at these facilities. Specific Plan policies and guidelines require that homes front onto pedestrian sidewalks, when feasible, provide design standards that allow commercial activities such as outdoor dining to extend into the pedestrian realm, and provide a variety of streetscape environments and pedestrian experiences along connecting trails and paths.

A town center, 2 village centers, and several neighborhood centers provide a mix of uses, designed to complement the needs and activities within the community. A large regional commercial corridor is strategically located along Base Line Road for maximum visibility and to provide buffers to residential developments to the south.

3. Provide a diversity of housing choices— types, styles, densities, and costs.

The Specific Plan encourages the provision of a range of housing choices—types, styles, and densities—to accommodate all income levels. Development standards are flexible to accommodate a wide array of housing types. The goal is to encourage new and creative development forms, especially in high density residential areas and mixed-use centers.



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4. Provide a range of transportation choices—streets, paths, and trails with links to local and regional transportation systems.

Placer Vineyards is designed to be a transit-friendly community with easy access from residential neighborhoods to a range of transportation facilities. A transit center is designed to serve the Plan Area and to provide links to a potential, future regional bus rapid transit system along Watt Avenue. A grid of streets and continuous network of shaded sidewalks and bikeway trails loop through neighborhood centers, schools, and parks.

5. Protect and enhance the highest quality natural features and resources on the site by incorporating native oaks, wetlands, creeks, and drainage systems into a community-wide open space system. Provide transitional buffers sensitive to the character of adjacent land uses.

The Plan Area will permanently preserve 698 acres of contiguous open space to protect and enhance natural drainage ways, wildlife and riparian corridors, significant wetlands, and oak groves that provide an open space refuge. As guided by this Specific Plan, over 46 miles of Class I bike trails shall be constructed by private developers, including a system of core backbone trails with connecting trail routes from the open space portions of their property.

6. Promote a balance of uses—housing, employment, schools, parks, recreation, and places to shop—that support a balance of jobs to housing in the region.

The result will be a planned community with a population of approximately 49,339 people, about 21,631 homes in various new residential neighborhoods, 111 acres of office development, 164 acres of retail development, 982 acres of new parks and open space, 7 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 1 high school. A transit and trail system is planned to provide connections throughout the Plan Area and to link into the existing and planned transit and trail systems within the greater region.

7. Ensure that adequate public facilities are provided concurrent with development.

The Plan Area will be served by a backbone infrastructure system (of water, wastewater, recycled water, and drainage) that will serve the needs of future residents and allow existing residents the opportunity to tie into upgraded facilities. The *Placer Vineyards Public Facilities Financing Plan* and the *Placer Vineyards Urban Services Plan* will be prepared to ensure the timely delivery and funding for infrastructure and community service facilities in the Plan Area.

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CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION



1.1 PURPOSE

The *Placer Vineyards Specific Plan* is a guide for the future urban growth and development in southwest Placer County. This Specific Plan will define a comprehensive set of policies to govern urban development in the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan Area (Plan Area).

Placer Vineyards is envisioned as a new community with a mix of residential, employment, school, and recreational uses. This Specific Plan sets policies for both on-site as well as off-site permanent preservation of significant natural resources and open space. The Specific Plan provides mechanisms for the implementation of public services and utilities and encourages the creation of cultural and educational community spaces. Placer Vineyards is guided by the following objectives:

- ◆ Protect and enhance the highest quality natural features and resources of the site and provide transitional buffers sensitive to the character of adjacent land uses;
- ◆ Promote compact mixed-use development that strives to provide a balance of uses, diverse housing and transportation choices, and contributes to a jobs to housing balance within the region;
- ◆ Establish a pedestrian-friendly community and access to a regional system of trails that link neighborhoods; and
- ◆ Develop a series of districts with their own unique site identity with urban centers, neighborhoods, and community serving facilities (schools, parks, and public amenities).

The Specific Plan and subsequent entitlement process is consistent with the goals and policies identified by the *Placer County General Plan* and allows for a sequence of community input and government review to ensure that development occurs in a logical, consistent, and timely manner.

1.2 SMART GROWTH AND THE BLUEPRINT PLAN

In December 2004 the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Board of Directors adopted the Preferred Blueprint Scenario (Blueprint Plan). The Blueprint Plan is a regional vision to accommodate the longer term growth needs of the region, including Placer County. The SACOG Blueprint Plan proposes a concentrated, compact development pattern in the region with a balance of employment, residential, shopping, and recreational uses linked to transportation system improvements. The vision is intended to guide land use and transportation choices over the next 50 years as the region's population grows from its current population of 2 million to include more than

3.8 million people. The Placer Vineyards Specific Plan addresses the SACOG recommendation for approximately 22,000 homes in the area and illustrates how development will occur generally following SACOG recommended development principles.

1.3 PROJECT LOCATION AND CONTEXT

Placer Vineyards includes approximately 5,230 acres of land located in the southwest corner of Placer County, approximately 15 miles north of the City of Sacramento (see Figure 1-1). The Plan Area is bounded to the north by Base Line Road, to the south by the Sacramento County line, to the west by the Sutter County line and Pleasant Grove Road, and to the east by the Dry Creek Parkway and Walerga Road (see Figure 1-2). The major roads serving the Plan Area—Base Line Road, Watt Avenue, and Walerga Road—are projected to be future thoroughfares. A number of smaller country roads and unpaved 2-lane roads traverse north-south through the Plan Area. A major electrical power line easement traverses east-west. Two smaller electrical power easements traverse north-south.

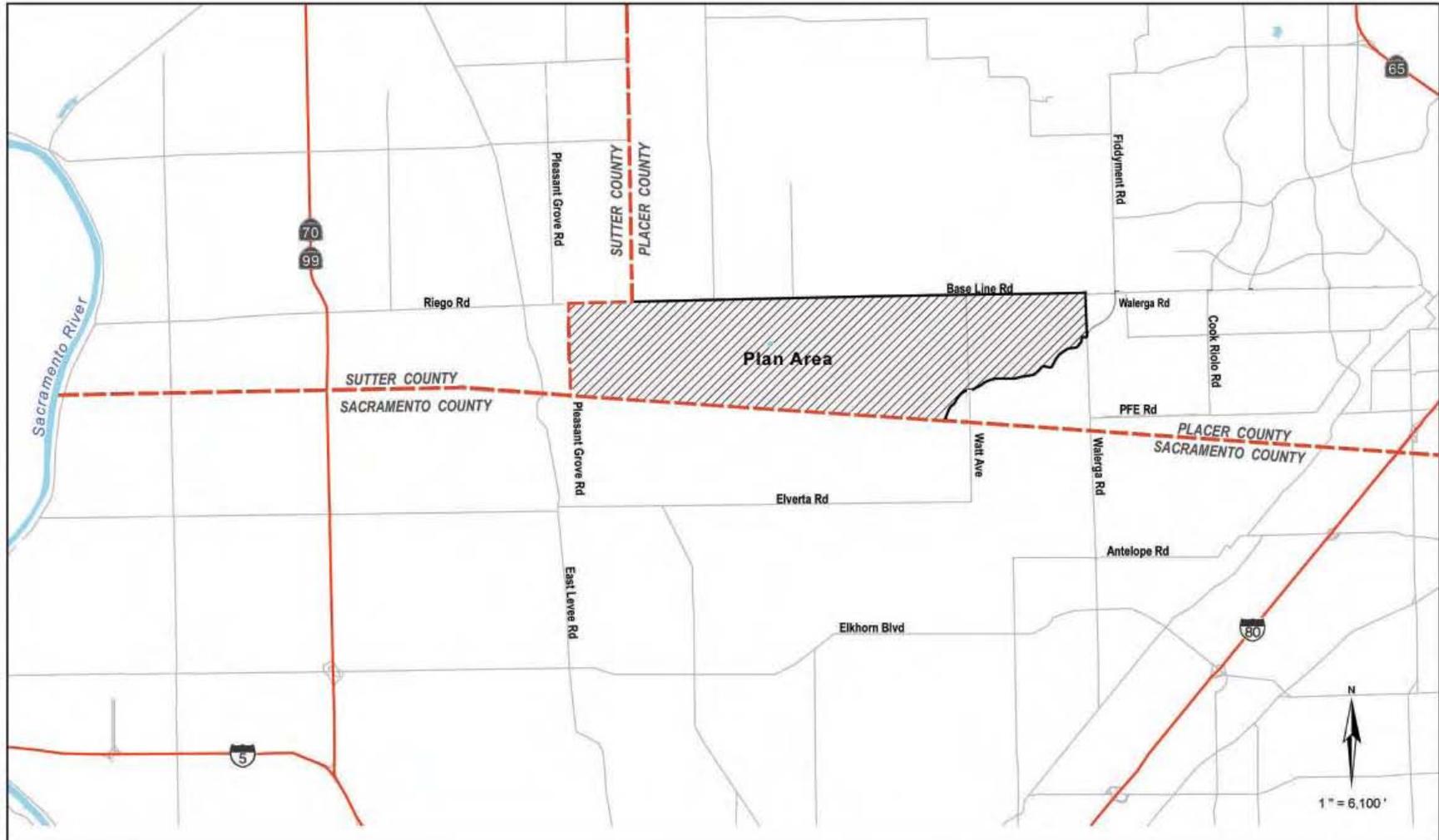
The land is primarily level and has gently rolling terrain that slopes primarily southwest and partially toward Dry Creek. A number of small creeks and wetlands are also dispersed throughout the site. The land consists mostly of undeveloped grazing and agricultural land, with approximately 150 residences located in the Special Planning Area (SPA), concentrated in the northwest corner of the Plan Area (refer to Figure 1.2 for the location of the SPA). A number of home occupation and ancillary uses are located throughout the rural residential areas. A self-storage facility is located on Pleasant Grove Road at the southwest corner of the Plan Area. There are also a few commercial uses northwest of the Plan Area, including a convenience store and service commercial uses (trucking operation and boat and RV storage). An abandoned portion of the Union Pacific Railroad traverses the western portion of the Plan Area.

The primary land use in the area has historically been agriculture, with rice lands, vineyards, orchards, grazing land, and areas devoted to field crops. In some areas the land has lain fallow for several years. The Plan Area also contains a number of small tree groves and isolated oak stands, primarily along the southern border adjacent to the Dry Creek parkway and existing Dyer Lane.



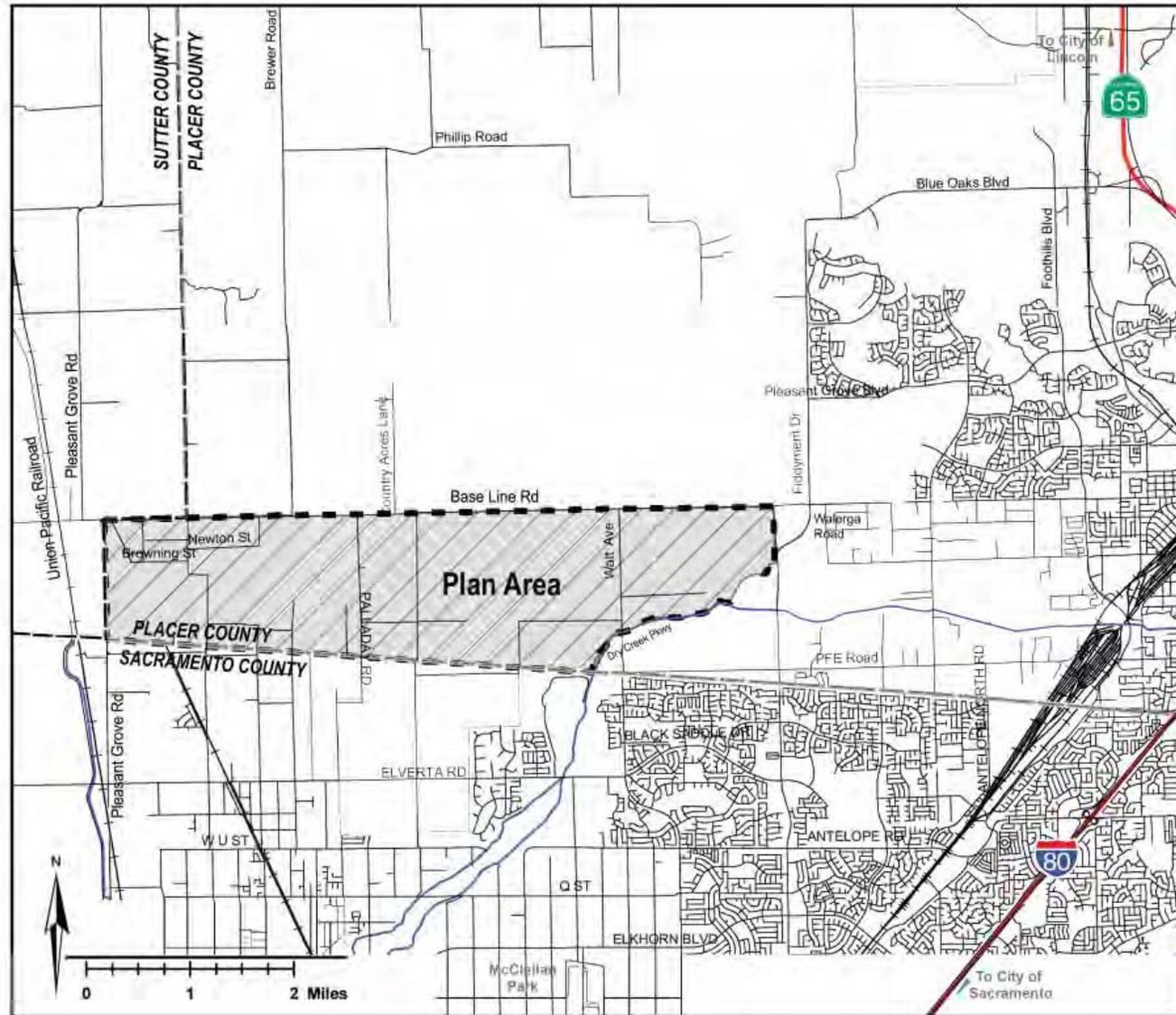
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Figure 1.1 Placer Vineyards Regional Context



Source: Quad Knopf, 2005

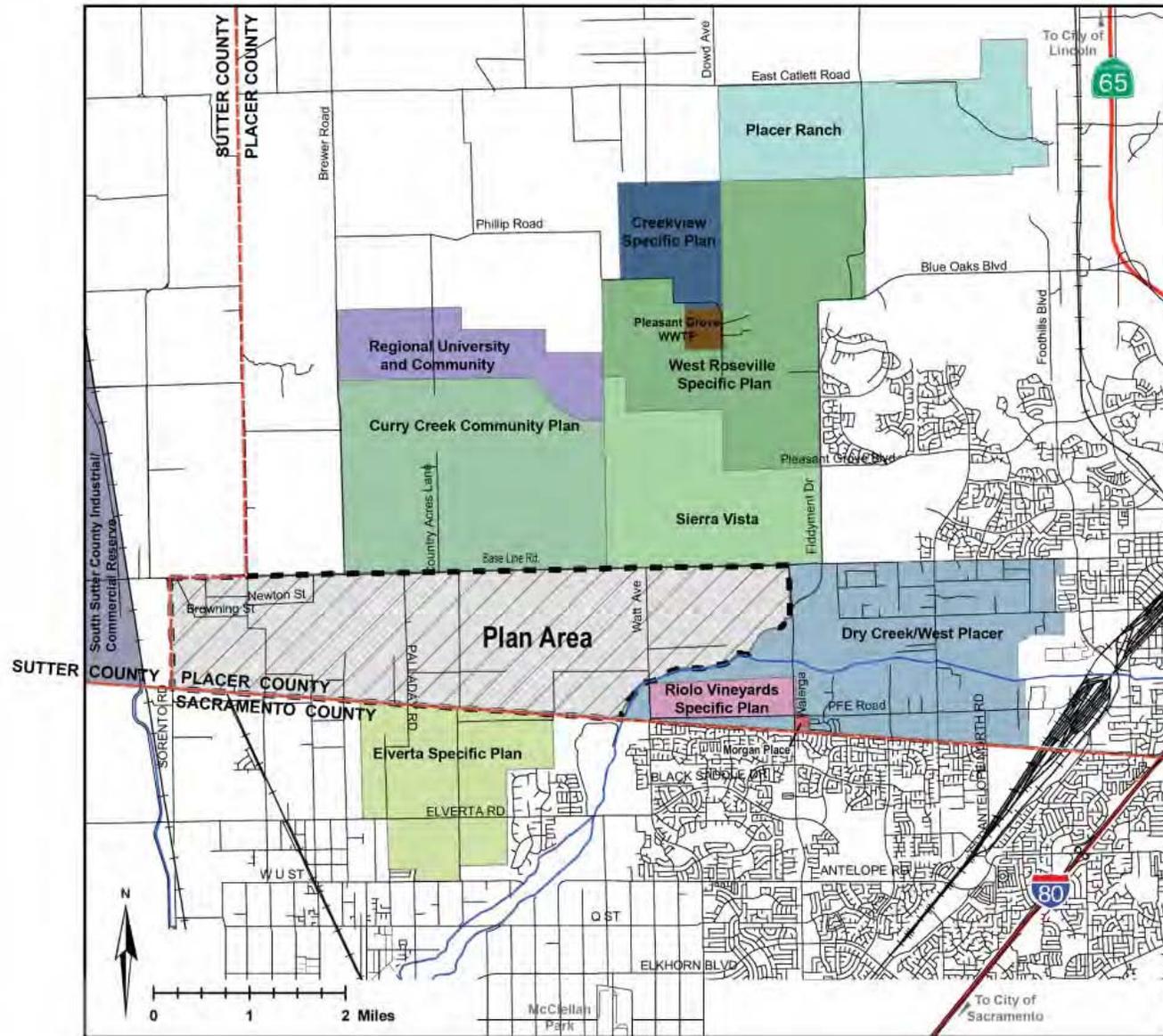
Figure 1.2 Placer Vineyards Site Location



Source: Placer County Planning Dept., 2001/Sacramento Planning Department, 2002/Quad Knopf, 2005

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Figure 1.3 Proposed Development Surrounding Placer Vineyards



Source: Placer County Planning Dept., 2001/Sacramento Planning Department, 2002/Quad Knopf, 2005

Neighboring land uses in the area consist of agricultural grazing land, farming, and large-lot rural residential uses. Urban development is also found nearby in adjacent Sacramento County within the communities of Antelope, Rio Linda, and Elverta. Roseville continues to see growth east of Walerga Road and north of Base Line Road. Refer to Figure 1-3 for a map of planning areas and projects surrounding the Plan Area.

1.4 PROJECT BACKGROUND

In the early 1990s, the Placer Vineyards Property Owners' Group—21 land owners or owner representatives controlling approximately 4,250 acres or 81 percent of the 5,230-acre Plan Area—initiated the preparation of the first draft Specific Plan. After a planning effort coordinated over 5 years, the first draft Specific Plan was submitted to Placer County in December 1996. Subsequently, the first draft Specific Plan was revised and a public review draft of the Specific Plan was published in May 2003. This *Placer Vineyards Specific Plan* will supersede and replace all previous versions of the Specific Plan.

The remaining 19 percent of the Plan Area (or approximately 979 acres) consists almost entirely of land in the far western part of the Plan Area, known as the Special Planning Area (SPA). These are mostly rural residential-agricultural parcels ranging in size from 1 to 40 acres. While included in the Plan Area, these rural residential lots will be governed under their existing land use and zoning classifications and are not limited or directed by the policies contained in this Specific Plan.

1.5 PURPOSE AND INTENT OF SPECIFIC PLAN

The *Placer County General Plan* directs the preparation of a Specific Plan to allow development of the *Dry Creek/West Placer Community Plan* area with the intent that the entire 5,230-acre Plan Area would be comprehensively planned. The Specific Plan sets forth regulations and programs which will carry out the goals and policies of the General Plan and ensure development is of the highest quality possible.

The *Placer Vineyards Specific Plan* addresses a comprehensive range of issues associated with the development of the Plan Area. This document is designed as a framework of policies, guidelines, and standards which shall guide the build-out of the Plan Area expected to occur over the next 20 to 30 years.

1.6 LEGAL AUTHORITY

Placer County is authorized to adopt this Specific Plan following the provisions of California Planning and Land Use Law (Title 7, Chapter 3, Article 8 [Sections 65450–65457] of the California Government Code and of Section 17.58.200 of the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance*. These provisions require that a specific plan be consistent with the adopted general plan of the jurisdiction in which the plan is located. All projects that follow within the Plan Area shall be consistent with this Specific Plan and the *Placer County General Plan*.

1.7 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER DOCUMENTS

1.7.1 GENERAL PLAN AND COMMUNITY PLAN

The August 1994 *Placer County General Plan* identifies the Plan Area as appropriate for urbanization following adoption and implementation of a comprehensive Specific Plan. The Plan Area is currently designated “Urban” on the “Generalized Land Use Diagram” within the *Placer County General Plan* and as the “West Placer Specific Plan Area” in the *Dry Creek/West Placer Community Plan*. A list of development standards, referred to in the General Plan as “Exhibit 1,” is applicable to the Plan Area.

General Plan Exhibit 1 envisions the 5,230-acre Plan Area as a mixed-use community, including a maximum of 14,132 dwelling units. It also establishes 80 acres of commercial development, 160 acres of office and professional development, and 300 acres of professional/light industrial development as approximate acreages for a mix of acceptable non-residential land uses and the following plan features:

- A. An urban form design concept that provides for two mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented villages buffered with lower densities and a larger town center.
- B. The town center will operate as the institutional and social focal point of the community and provide a central location for public and institutional uses.
- C. The village core areas are mixed-use commercial areas with neighborhood commercial uses and high-density residential uses.
- D. Commercial areas within the town center and villages shall enhance outdoor public gathering areas.
- E. Community open space should be contained in village greens and community parks that are connected with a greenbelt system.

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- F. The town center and village core areas shall be planned and designed to be pedestrian-, bicycle-, and transit-oriented.
- G. Commercial buildings with the ground floors oriented to pedestrians; street-level windows, numerous entries, arcades, porches, and balconies; retail shops and display areas; street orientation with parking to the rear; and varied building facades and covered walkways.
- H. A mix of residential types with densities radiating outward from the village core areas.
- I. Existing and proposed stream and riparian areas, utility easements, and other such features should be incorporated into the open space corridors for the community.
- J. Roadway corridors shall be designed as landscape corridors, including separate bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

1.7.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

In conjunction with the Specific Plan, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared to study the environmental impacts the project may create. Elements analyzed in the EIR include project characteristics; the regulatory setting; population, employment and housing; visual quality and aesthetics; water quality; biological resources; geology and soils; archaeology; transportation/circulation; air quality; noise; public services and infrastructure; hazards; and plan alternatives. The purpose, policy, and detailed requirements of this Specific Plan will implement the mitigation measures contained in the EIR.

1.7.3 ZONING

Existing zoning designations in the Plan Area include the following:

- ♦ **F-B-X-DR** (Farming, Combining Development Reserve [80-acre minimum parcel size]);
- ♦ **IN-UP-DR** (Industrial, Combining Limited Use, Combining Development Reserve);
- ♦ **RA-B-X-DR** (Residential Agricultural, Combining Development Reserve [10-acre minimum parcel size]);
- ♦ **F-DR** (Farming, Combining Development Reserve);

- ♦ **C1-DC-DR** (Neighborhood Commercial, Combining Design Scenic Corridor, Combining Development Reserve);
- ♦ **O** (Open Space);
- ♦ **O PD=2** (Open Space, Combining Planned Residential Development = 2 dwelling units per acre); and
- ♦ **O PD=1** (Open Space, Combining Planned Residential Development = 1 dwelling unit per acre).

The Plan Area shall be rezoned with a new “Specific Plan” (SPL) zoning district. The SPL zone will be combined with the Specific Plan to function as the zoning text and map for the Plan Area (with the exception of the SPA). Rezoning in the Plan Area and in the SPA is described in more detail in Chapter IX, “Implementation.”

Relationship to County Zoning

The Specific Plan text and exhibits and the “Land Use and Development Standards” presented in Appendix A will establish the zoning, land use, and development pattern for the Plan Area. The standards in this Specific Plan will amend and supersede the standards and land use designations found in the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance*, Chapter 17 of the *Placer County Code*. Standards or regulations that are not specified in this Specific Plan shall default to the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance* for the applicable provisions.

As an example, definitions for various land uses identified in the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance* shall be used as the basis for interpreting the land uses allowed in the Specific Plan. However, this Specific Plan may modify certain definitions or define additional land uses not found in the Zoning Ordinance. Modifications or amendments made to the Specific Plan and/or Land Use and Development Standards shall follow Placer County procedures for amendments as defined in Chapter IX, “Implementation.”

1.7.4 FINANCING PLAN

Concurrent with or shortly after the approval of the Specific Plan, the County Board of Supervisors may accept the *Placer Vineyards Public Facilities Financing Plan*. The Financing Plan shall identify the funding mechanisms required for the capital costs of all public facilities infrastructure necessary to accomplish Specific Plan build-out.

1.7.5 DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS

Pursuant to Section 17.58.210 of the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance*, upon the approval of the Specific Plan, the County will enter into Development Agreements with individual property owners within the Placer Vineyards property owners' group. Development Agreements will set forth the property owner's obligations related to the construction and financing of infrastructure, County facilities and public services, including financial contributions for public infrastructure and facilities maintenance, provision of urban services for the Plan Area, and other obligations that may be imposed by the County as a condition for development. It will also provide property owners with certain vested development rights, subject to the conditions for development in the Development Agreement.

1.7.6 DESIGN/SITE REVIEW

The purpose of the County's Design/Site Review process is to ensure that the design of buildings constructed in the Specific Plan area is of high quality and to prevent new construction from adversely affecting the residential and business desirability of the immediate and nearby neighboring areas. All development within the Plan Area will be subject to Design/Site Review.

1.8 SPECIFIC PLAN ORGANIZATION

1.8.1 CHAPTER STRUCTURE AND FORMAT

Generally, each of the Placer Vineyards chapters begins with a chapter overview or land use concept discussion, followed by project background information and references to other related documents pertinent to the chapter. The Specific Plan includes goals, policies, standards, and design guidelines. The following definitions describe the nature of the statements of goals, policies, standards, and design guidelines and the format in which these are used in this Specific Plan.

Goals: Goals are objectives or purpose statements written in a way that is general in nature and immeasurable. Goals are called out in bold type in sans serif font and are identified by chapter number, followed by the goal number, as follows: **Goal 3.X.**

Policies: Policies are specific statements in text or a diagram guiding and implying a commitment to action. Policy statements are requirements and use "shall," "must" or "will." Policies are indicated in bold, italicized type followed by a subject heading and identified by the chapter number and policy number, as follows:

Policy 3.X <Subject Heading>.

Standards: Standards are specific, sometimes quantified regulations used to guide development of the Specific Plan. Development standards will serve to supplement the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance*. Development standards for Placer Vineyards are provided in a separate document accompanying the Specific Plan. Statement of standards in the Specific Plan use "shall," "must," or "will."

Guidelines: Guidelines are qualitative and provide a design intent through descriptions and illustrations. Guidelines allow for flexibility and interpretation so long as the intent of the guidelines is upheld. Guideline statements use words like "should," "may," "encouraged," and "discouraged." Guidelines are not numbered. They are identified in a sans serif font and indented a quarter inch from the body of the text, as follows:

Design Guidelines for <Subject Heading>.

1.8.2 SPECIFIC PLAN CHAPTERS

The Specific Plan consists of 9 primary chapters described below and a supporting appendix section:

Chapter I: Introduction

Presents the purpose, intent, and project context of the Specific Plan;

Chapter II: Vision

Presents the project vision, guiding design, and planning principles for Placer Vineyards and their specific application to the Placer Vineyards context;

Chapter III: Land Use

Sets the framework for the development of Placer Vineyards, providing information on land use regulations, allowable land use types, development standards, and the intensity and density of development;

Chapter IV: Environmental Resources

Addresses the environmental conditions and sensitive resources on the site, including wetlands, special status species, oak and riparian woodlands, water quality and conservation, energy conservation, air quality, and noise;

Chapter V: Transportation and Circulation

Describes the roadways, trails, and transit system and provides standards and guidelines for their design within the Placer Vineyards site;

Chapter VI: Community Design

Sets the design standards and guidelines for the elements that make up and will give identity to the Placer Vineyards community, including its street and landscape corridors; gateways, signage, and street lighting; activity centers; and neighborhoods;

INTRODUCTION

Chapter VII: Parks and Open Space

Describes the parks, open space, and recreation system designed for the Placer Vineyards community;

Chapter VIII: Public Utilities and Services

Describes the backbone infrastructure systems (water, wastewater, recycled water, drainage, solid waste disposal, electricity and natural gas, telephone, and gas services) and community service facilities (schools, county services, public safety, and other community facilities) necessary to serve the Plan Area; and

Chapter IX: Implementation

Outlines the administration and implementation steps required to achieve the goals and regulations set forth in the Specific Plan.

Appendices:

The Appendices contain references that support and supplement information in the Specific Plan. They include:

- ◆ Appendix A, “Land Use and Development Standards”
(Provided under a separate cover);
- ◆ Appendix B, “Recommended Plant List;”
- ◆ Appendix C, “Traffic Intersection Analysis;” and
- ◆ Appendix D, “Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program”
(Provided under a separate cover).

PLACER VINEYARDS

Draft Blueprint Specific Plan
Placer County, California

CHAPTER II: VISION



2.1 OVERVIEW

The Placer Vineyards Specific Plan will direct the construction of a comprehensively planned new community in southwestern Placer County. This community will connect to emerging developments in the city of Roseville and Sacramento County and will help define an urban character for this area. The individual elements and requirements of this plan all serve to fulfill this vision. The regional vision for Placer Vineyards is identified in this chapter while the details for how this vision shall be carried forward are contained in the chapters of the Specific Plan that follow.

2.2 PLACER VINEYARDS PLACE WITHIN THE REGIONAL PLANNING CONTEXT

Placer Vineyards is identified in the *Dry Creek/West Placer Community Plan*, the *Placer County General Plan*, and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments' (SACOG's) adopted *Preferred Blueprint Scenario* (the "SACOG Plan") as a new compact, self-sufficient community. The SACOG Plan is a regional vision to accommodate the longer term growth needs of the Sacramento region, as the region's current population of 2 million is forecasted to grow to more than 3.8 million people over the next 50 years. The SACOG Plan has been prepared as an example of how land use and transportation choices might be integrated into the region. In the SACOG Plan, Placer Vineyards is one of the largest areas targeted for new urban growth in southwest Placer County. The SACOG Plan suggests that over 21,000 new homes might be constructed in the Plan Area.

Placer Vineyards is planned to permanently preserve on-site and off-site natural resources and open space by creating a higher intensity urban core, connected to transit, and providing a broad range of housing choices, affordable to diverse income populations. This Specific Plan includes the construction of 21,631 homes to accommodate all income levels and household sizes. Placer Vineyards is near existing employment centers in Roseville and Rocklin and emerging employment centers at the Sacramento International Airport and McClellan Park. The Placer Vineyards plan will provide direct access to regional transportation systems and link this area to major employment centers in the region. The Placer Vineyards Plan shares the SACOG and local planning visions to link land use and transportation systems to connect and serve the region.

The SACOG Plan has been developed around the following seven guiding principles:

- ◆ Natural resource conservation;
- ◆ Mixed-use development;
- ◆ Compact development;
- ◆ Use of existing assets;
- ◆ Quality design;
- ◆ Housing choice and diversity; and
- ◆ Transportation choices



The vision for Placer Vineyards addresses these principles, in part and brings these regional concepts to the specific community development level, as described by the project's guiding principles that follow. Because the Blueprint Plan addresses matters at a regional scale, the full benefits of the plan are not directly evident.

VISION

2.3 PROJECT SMART GROWTH PRINCIPLES

Placer Vineyards is planned to create an urban development pattern with diverse transportation and housing options affordable to a broad range of income groups while permanently preserving on-site and off-site natural resources and open space. Rooted in an existing regional community context, the planning and design vision for Placer Vineyards is grounded in the following principles of Smart Growth:

Natural Resources	Protect and enhance the highest quality natural features and resources on the site by incorporating native oaks, wetlands, creeks and drainage systems into a community-wide open space system. Provide transitional buffers sensitive to the character of adjacent land uses.
Mixed-use, Compact Development	Promote a mixed-use, compact development pattern linked to regional transportation systems.
Livable, Distinct Pedestrian-Friendly Neighborhoods	Create a livable, pedestrian-friendly, and safe environment with a distinct community identity and sense of place.
Housing Choice and Diversity	Provide a diversity of housing choices—types, styles, densities, and costs.
Transportation Choices	Provide a range of transportation choices including streets, paths, and trails, with links to local and regional transportation systems.
Jobs/Housing Balance	Promote a balance of uses—housing, employment, schools, parks, recreation, and places to shop—that supports a balance of jobs to housing in the region.
Safe and Accessible Communities	Create safe and accessible links between neighborhoods, centers, and districts within the Plan Area and to the surrounding community.

2.4 PLANNING AND DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The planning and design principles that follow provide the overarching themes that establish the vision and physical framework for the Placer Vineyards plan. These concepts are organized as community-wide elements and centers of activity intended to implement the above-stated Smart Growth and regional planning principles while recognizing the unique site and market conditions specific to Placer Vineyards. These concepts, as they apply to the community, are depicted graphically on the following pages.

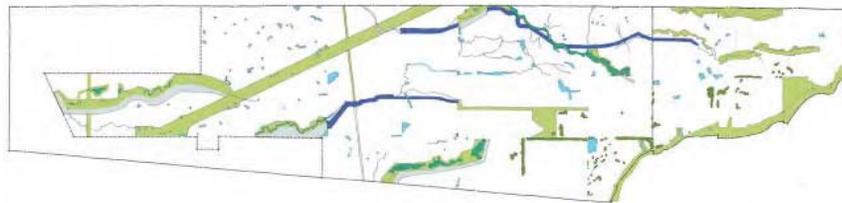
COMMUNITY-WIDE ELEMENTS

A. Natural Resources and Public Open Space

The natural resources and open space vision encourages wildlife and plant habitat preservation; promotes energy efficient design, water conservation and stormwater management; and incorporates public open space (parks, town and village greens, trails, and greenbelts) for public recreation within the development.

1. Natural Resources

The natural landscape consists of existing trees, wetlands, wildlife corridors, creeks, ponds, and other geological features on the site. Open space in Placer Vineyards is designed to permanently protect the significant on-site riparian corridors, wetlands, and oak tree groves characteristic to the site, such as Dry Creek. Dry Creek is a rich, natural open space resource that provides a green edge to the southeast corner of the community. As an element of Specific Plan implementation, Placer Vineyards will also provide off-site wetland mitigation, preserving large off-site open space preserves, located away from urban edge conditions.



2. Public Open Space Network

The open space network describes the system of parks, recreational areas, on-site drainage ways, and storm retention areas that are connected by a network of trails and paths. The open space system integrates existing wetlands, drainageways, spaces under power line easements, significant on-site oak groves, and the Dry Creek riparian corridor into an enhanced system of on-site drainage, storm retention, and recreational areas. This community-wide open space greenway system generally runs east-west, linking neighborhoods and special districts together throughout the community.



VISION

Figure 2.1 View of Open Space Corridor

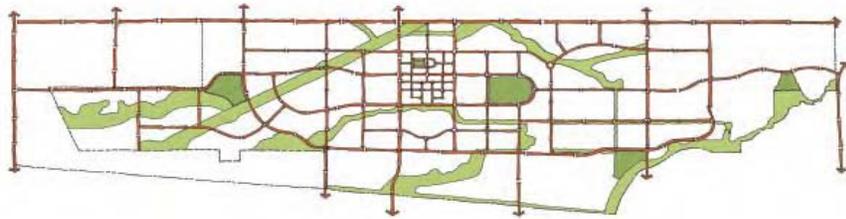


B. Transportation Choices

Developments designed around Smart Growth principles provide opportunities that encourage people to choose other modes of transportation—to sometimes walk, ride bicycles, ride the bus or light rail (if available), and to carpool.

3. Grid of Streets

In Placer Vineyards, a network of major roadways, arranged as a grid of streets, provides efficient access and circulation for residents, shoppers, and workers. The north-south street system and circulation connections discontinue and terminate at major arterial roads, at parks, or at open space corridors. Roadways are designed to provide safe connections shared by cars, buses, bicyclists, and pedestrians.



4. Transit Linkages

Alternative modes of transportation are integrated into the circulation system. The Specific Plan includes the provision of right-of-way for a future regional bus rapid transit system along Watt Avenue. East Town Center Drive will reserve right-of-way for a future streetcar system internal to Placer Vineyards. Routes for smaller buses will traverse the community to connect residents to the town center, village centers, and community facilities.



5. Connecting Trails and Paths

Pedestrian and bicycle paths and routes are integrated into the community-wide open space and street system. The roadways, greenways, and trails run parallel to each other and connect the major centers of the community.

6. Designed Landscapes

The designed landscape defines the form and character of the public realm: streetscapes along street corridors, gateways, entries, and landscape buffers and public spaces. The landscape design of the public realm provides a continuous visual thread that ties the community together under a common “green” framework, establishing the Placer Vineyards identity and community character.



VISION

Figure 2.2 View of Dyer Lane Greenway through Oak Groves



CENTERS OF ACTIVITY

C. Quality Community Planning and Design

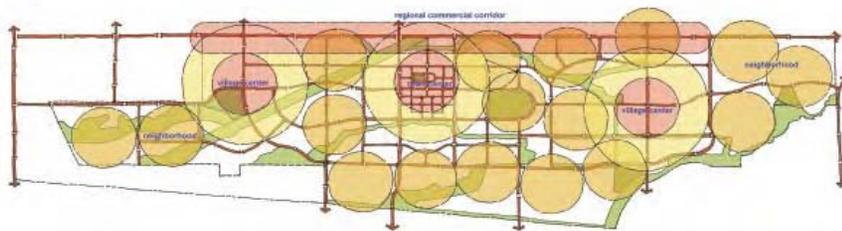
The Smart Growth principles of mixed-use/compact development, jobs/housing balance, and livability are addressed through the nature and design of the land use plan. Homes, shops, offices and entertainment places built near each other can create active, vital neighborhoods.

Project examples in Placer Vineyards include housing located near regional employment centers, small shopping centers in residential neighborhoods, and buildings with ground-floor retail and apartments or condominiums on the upper floors. These projects function as local activity centers, contributing to a sense of community, where people interact more with each other and tend to walk, bike, or ride the bus.

7. Town and Village Centers

A series of strategically-located urban centers—the town center, east village center, and west village center—are conveniently located to all neighborhoods in the Plan Area. Adjacent to higher density residential neighborhoods, the centrally located town center provides a mix of uses serving both regional and local market demands.

The 2 village centers are smaller local commercial nodes of activity containing a diverse mix of uses, housing types and densities, commercial and employment uses, public and quasi-public uses, and open space uses within a short walking distance of surrounding neighborhoods.



8. Regional Commercial Corridor

Strategically located along Base Line Road and the Watt Avenue bus rapid transit corridor, a regional commercial corridor links the Placer Vineyards community to the larger regional community. These commercial centers, including a power center, a range of retail, office, and business park uses along Base Line Road, are intended to be major centers of employment, services, and retail shopping for the region.

9. Distinct Neighborhoods Anchored by Public Spaces

The Smart Growth principles of livable, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods, housing choice, and diversity are guiding visions in the design of the Placer Vineyards plan. Providing a variety of places where people can choose to live—apartments, townhomes, and single-family detached homes on a variety of lot sizes—creates opportunities to meet the needs of diverse household sizes (i.e. single families, single or 2-person households, seniors, and people with special needs).

Placer Vineyards is organized as an assembly of distinct neighborhoods, each designed with its own character and unique sense of place. A range of housing types and densities within each residential neighborhood provide housing choices and flexibility to meet market demands. Neighborhoods are anchored with community-serving facilities, such as schools, parks, religious facilities, and community centers within a 1/4 mile walking distance of surrounding residences.



VISION

Figure 2.3 View of Townhomes along a Residential Neighborhood Street



2.5 THE PLACER VINEYARDS PLAN

Envisioned as a compact, self-sufficient community, Placer Vineyards is comprehensively planned to include a mix of higher density residential neighborhoods, a central mixed-use town center, 2 mixed-use village centers, a commercial and employment corridor, parks, recreation facilities, schools, religious facilities, and a network of open space and protected riparian corridors.

Placer Vineyards is a place where the natural and urban landscapes are woven together to create a distinct community.

A network of shaded paths and trails weaves throughout the community along drainage corridors to connect residential neighborhoods to natural resources, community recreation facilities, schools, and community centers.

As a transit-oriented community, Placer Vineyards will include a transportation network of roadways and bicycle and pedestrian trails that provide access throughout the community, to the larger regional trail system, and to the regional bus rapid transit system on Watt Avenue. Smaller buses traverse throughout the community to connect residents to the town center, village centers, and community facilities.

The town center at Placer Vineyards, located at the heart of the community, is intended to provide a mix of retail shops, services, community facilities, and entertainment activities. The town center will serve as the cultural and civic focal point for public life. Buildings with wide, shaded retail streets are proposed to be clustered around a central town green. Residents and visitors casually stroll, shop, and eat at outdoor cafes, restaurants, and coffee shops. The town center will include a community library, post office, a small government center and sheriff substation, and a community recreation facility.

2 small village centers serve the surrounding neighborhoods: one on the east side and a second on the west side of Placer Vineyards. The village centers will be the focal point of the surrounding residential life. Designed as small, mixed-use nodes of activity, each village center provides wide, shaded pedestrian-friendly streets, and locally serving shops, services, offices, and residential uses. A small public plaza with street furniture and shade trees is proposed to create an inviting place for residents to enjoy outdoor public activities and social gatherings.

A regional commercial corridor on Base Line Road that includes a strategically located power center at the southwest corner of Watt Avenue and Base Line Road will provide regional services, employment, and a gathering place for the surrounding area communities.

Neighborhoods in Placer Vineyards are intentionally designed to be open, accessible, and inviting, offering a range of housing choices, types, styles, and densities for all income levels. Centrally located schools and parks will serve as the focal point for each neighborhood with safe, shaded, tree-lined walkways and paths radiating to surrounding residences.

3 large community parks provide for a range of organized recreational activities for Placer Vineyards. Located adjacent to the open space and community trail network, residents will have easy and safe access (to walk, bike, and jog) between parks and community facilities throughout the community. 2 oak grove natural areas, the Dry Creek Corridor, and adjoining Gibson Ranch Park, provide a natural refuge from the urban fabric.

CHAPTER III: LAND USE



This “Land Use” chapter sets forth the overall framework for the development and preservation of the Placer Vineyards Plan Area (or Plan Area). This chapter establishes the overall goals, policies, and development standards applicable to the planned land use activities within the Plan Area. It includes the types and intensities of uses for land and buildings, and the overall forms that are desired for development sites and buildings. Figure 3.1, the “Land Use Diagram” illustrates the physical pattern of development permitted in the Plan Area.

This chapter is to be used in conjunction with the other chapters of the Specific Plan. More detailed discussion of environmental resource management is included in Chapter IV. Information on transportation and circulation systems is contained in Chapter V. Community design issues are addressed in Chapter VI, and details on public facilities are contained in Chapter VII. The “Land Use and Development Standards” presented in Appendix A establish the permitted uses and Development Standards for the various land use designations in the Plan Area. These standards amend and supersede Chapter 17 of the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance*. However, standards or regulations that are not specified in Appendix A shall default to the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance* for applicable provisions.

3.1 LAND USE CONCEPT

CONTEXT

Placer Vineyards represents one of the largest areas for urban growth in southwest Placer County. The intent of the plan is to accommodate the long-term growth needs of the County while establishing a concentrated, compact development pattern in the region with a balance of employment, residential, shopping, and recreational uses. The result will be a comprehensively planned community with a range of new housing neighborhoods, employment centers, shopping centers, parks, recreational facilities, and schools.

BLUEPRINT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This Specific Plan will implement the concepts and principles set forth in the 2005 SACOG Preferred Blueprint Scenario for Southwest Placer County, described in Chapter II, “Vision,” of this Specific Plan. The Land Use Plan for this property, shown in Figure 3.1, will also accommodate the densities and general type of development envisioned in the SACOG Preferred Blueprint Scenario (the SACOG Plan).

The SACOG Plan describes the preferred scenario for Southwest Placer County as follows: “Unincorporated southwest Placer County grows to become a major part of the region’s urban core, with a population of over 105,000 by 2050.” This area is further

envisioned to have most of that growth occurring in housing, providing shelter for workers in major nearby job centers in Roseville, Rocklin, McClellan, and the Sacramento Airport, with the housing stock oriented to the work force, young families, seniors, and a growing percentage of smaller households. Eighty percent of the housing is envisioned to be small-lot single-family, townhomes, rowhouses, condominiums, and apartments. Open space and natural resources are provided throughout the community as well as parks, schools, and neighborhood shopping areas. Additionally, mixed-use activity centers with two- to four-story-high buildings are located to serve the area with high-capacity transit (light rail or bus rapid transit).



LAND USE DIAGRAM

The Land Use Diagram illustrates the underlying framework for the arrangement of land uses, transportation networks, and open spaces within the Plan Area (see Figure 3.1). Tables 3-1 and 3-2 provide a description of the types of uses permitted within each land use category as shown in the Land Use Diagram.

At Plan build-out, the Plan Area will accommodate an estimated population of 49,339 people. It is also planned to accommodate up to 21,631 new homes, approximately 111 acres of office development, 164 acres of retail development, approximately 982 acres of new parks and open space, 7 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 1 high school. Table 3.2, “The Land Use Summary Table” establishes the mix of uses in the Plan Area, including commercial, employment, civic, and open space components. Refer also to Table 3.4 for the “Population and Housing Summary” and Table 3.6 for the “Employment Summary.”

The land use concept is based on the overall vision and Smart Growth development principles discussed in Chapter II, “Vision.” These planning principles are summarized by the goals and policies that follow.

LAND USE

3.2 LAND USE PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

GENERAL LAND USE GOALS

- Goal 3.1** Develop an urban pattern that is consistent with the goals and objectives of the *Placer County General Plan* while also taking into consideration the SACOG Blueprint vision of growth in the region.
- Goal 3.2** Develop Placer Vineyards in a pattern that sets a new urban development standard for the area, while incorporating existing and planned transportation systems.
- Goal 3.3** Organize land use types and patterns that are sensitive to the existing topographic features and other physical constraints of the site.
- Goal 3.4** Minimize conflicts between urban development and existing and interim agricultural activities.

GENERAL LAND USE POLICIES

- Policy 3.1 *Urban/Rural Transitions.***
The Placer Vineyards Specific Plan Area shall provide buffers to existing rural and agricultural development located outside of its project boundaries, including the Special Planning Area, for as long as these rural/agricultural uses persist. Buffers may include streets, landscaping, and open space areas. Buffers provided next to the Special Planning Area are identified in Figure 7.10, “Special Planning Area Open Space Buffer and Trails Diagram.”
- Policy 3.2 *Agricultural Uses within the Specific Plan Area.***
Agricultural use of the land within the Specific Plan urban area boundary may continue until such time as development pursuant to this Specific Plan is implemented. In the absence of a health and safety issue, urban developments shall not be required to provide buffers for adjoining agricultural uses located in the urban area boundary. Placer County will review and analyze development proposals for potential conflicts between proposed land uses and adjacent agricultural activities. Urban developments abutting continuing agricultural lands will be required, as a condition of tentative map approval, to provide home buyers with a document informing them that the adjacent land is in agriculture and that the agriculturalist has the right to continue operations under the County’s Right-to-Farm ordinance.

Policy 3.3 *Timing of Development.*

The construction of a Core Backbone Infrastructure system will permit development to proceed anywhere within the Plan Area, as the availability of services and infrastructure allow.

NATURAL RESOURCES GOALS

- Goal 3.5** Encourage a pattern of development that conserves and incorporates the natural resources of the site in a manner that enhances the quality of life within the urban community.
- Goal 3.6** Protect and conserve the Dry Creek riparian corridor and significant oak groves located throughout the site and compensate for development impacts with permanent off-site preservation of natural resources, open space, and farmland soils.

NATURAL RESOURCES POLICIES

Policy 3.4 *Natural Resource Management.*

- 1. The following natural features of the site are protected in open space areas and serve as the framework for the system of drainage corridors and greenways throughout the Plan Area:*
 - a. Environmentally sensitive areas, such as significant wetlands and streams, shall be protected in open space with landscape buffers.*
 - b. The existing oak tree groves on the site shall be preserved within oak parks while the existing oak trees along Dyer Lane shall be preserved within the landscape corridors.*
 - c. The Dry Creek riparian corridor shall be a protected natural resource area, shared between the existing plant and wildlife communities and future residents.*
- 2. The California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program identifies much of the Plan Area as “important farmland.” Specific Plan policies 4.34 and 4.35 describe the requirements for preserving open space land elsewhere in Placer County to offset open space land impacted within the Specific Plan area.*

HOUSING GOALS

Goal 3.7 Provide an adequate supply of residential land, including opportunities for affordable housing, in a range of densities and housing types.

HOUSING POLICIES

Policy 3.5 Location and Density Range.

The total of all residential units within the plan shall not exceed 21,631 units. Residential uses shall be located in areas designated in the Land Use Diagram and within the density ranges provided in Table 3-2, “Land Use Summary Table.”

Policy 3.6 Mix of Densities and Variety.

Subject to the applicable density range, a variety of housing types and densities will be provided.

Policy 3.7 Secondary Dwelling Units.

Secondary dwellings shall be counted as a residential unit for the purposes of calculating the total number of units allowed for a property under Table 3-3. Lots where secondary dwellings are proposed to be constructed shall be identified as part of any application for the tentative subdivision map for the property and shall comply with the following standards:

1. Design and Development Standards:

- a. General Requirements: Construction associated with a secondary dwelling shall conform to the height, setback, Design/Site Review, fees, charges, and other requirements generally applicable to a primary dwelling unit located within the same and use designation where the property is located.*
- b. Minimum Lot Area: 5,000 square feet*
- c. Maximum Lot Coverage: The maximum combined building coverage for the primary dwelling unit and secondary dwelling shall not exceed 50 percent.*
- d. Maximum Floor Area: The floor area allowed for a secondary dwelling shall not exceed 40% of the primary dwelling unit’s living area and shall not exceed 1,200 square feet.*

- e. Setbacks: Secondary dwellings shall maintain the setbacks required in the land use designation in which it is located. In addition, a minimum of 10 feet shall be maintained between the primary dwelling and a detached secondary dwelling.*
 - f. Outdoor Covered Areas: Covered porches, decks, landing places and similar architectural features may be added to a secondary dwelling structure provided that any such covered feature is open on at least two sides and occupies an area no larger than 25% of the allowable living space of the secondary dwelling.*
 - g. Appearance: Secondary dwellings shall be architecturally compatible with the primary dwelling unit and shall be subordinate to the primary residence.*
 - h. Parking Requirement: Parking required is in addition to the parking that is required for the primary dwelling unit. Each secondary dwelling shall provide at least 1 off-street parking space. Parking may be located in tandem with other on-site parking.*
 - i. Deed Restriction: Prior to issuance of a building permit for the secondary dwelling, the owner shall record a deed restriction which addresses the restrictions on such units contained herein.*
- 2. Fees: Each secondary dwelling shall be subject to payment of all fees payable by the primary dwelling unit, including those required under the applicable provisions of the Development Agreement.*

Policy 3.8 Active Adult Community.

The eastern portion of the Plan Area (designated under property 1A on Figure 3.3, “Land Use Ownership Diagram”) shall be reserved as a residential community for active adults (55+ years and older).

COMMERCIAL GOALS

Goal 3.8 Create a mixed-use town center, located centrally in the community, to serve as a gathering place that provides a range of public and private activities for residents, local workers, and visitors.

Goal 3.9 Create two distinct village centers, geographically dispersed at the west and east ends of the community, with a diverse mix of land use activities that serve the surrounding population.

LAND USE

Goal 3.10 Provide a range of commercial uses along Base Line Road, including a power center, to serve as major centers of employment and retail shopping for the region that contributes to the County’s economic and fiscal soundness.

COMMERCIAL POLICIES

Policy 3.9 Commercial Services.

A hierarchy of regional and local commercial areas shall provide a range of products and services to the Plan Area.

- 1. The regional commercial centers are highly visible shopping areas and offices concentrated at high-traffic intersections along Base Line Road. The power center provides for large-scale volume purchases not generally available in smaller shopping centers. Together, these centers will serve the needs of the larger region; they will not compete directly with the retail and services provided in the Placer Vineyards town center, village centers, or convenience centers.*
- 2. The town center shall be located in the geographic center of the community, just south of Base Line Road, along Town Center Dr., in between 14th St. and 16th St. The town center is an easily accessible, pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use center with specialty retail shops and restaurants located on the ground floor for outside dining potential. Housing and offices may be located on the floors above. The town center is also a community focal point, providing public and civic services such as a library, religious facility, and civic offices as well as recreational opportunities such as parks, open markets, recreation centers, and theaters.*
- 3. Two village centers serve the east and west communities of the Plan Area. Like the town center, they are easily accessible to the community, but are smaller mixed-use centers, providing retail and more localized community shopping and services. The east village center will provide for bus rapid transit access, a transit terminal, a fire station, and ground-floor commercial uses surrounded by high density housing. The west village center provides commercial uses in proximity to the high school, a community park, and residential neighborhoods.*
- 4. Neighborhood centers provide convenience-type retail uses within local residential neighborhoods and are dispersed throughout the community within the Commercial/Mixed-Use (C/MU) land use categories.*

EMPLOYMENT GOALS

Goal 3.11 Further the County’s goals for growth management, economic development, and community character by designating land uses that facilitate and encourage the creation of high-quality employment centers along Base Line Road.

Goal 3.12 Help to achieve a balance of jobs and housing within the region, thereby minimizing the air pollution impacts caused by long commute trips.

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

Policy 3.10 Employment.

Higher intensity employment uses shall be concentrated along Base Line Road and secondarily in the town center and along Watt Avenue.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GOALS

Goal 3.13 Create an interconnected parks and open space system within Placer Vineyards that provides for the preservation and enhancement of natural resources and offers a variety of recreational opportunities for the community.

Goal 3.14 Provide parks sized for a variety of recreational uses.

Goal 3.15 Provide schools that are within a safe, convenient walking distance of residential neighborhoods as an element of the open space fabric in the community.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE POLICIES

Policy 3.11 Parks.

A variety of parks shall be distributed throughout the Plan Area and shall provide recreational opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities.

- 1. 8 neighborhood parks shall be located adjacent to school facilities to allow for shared use and maintenance of public facilities. (See Chapter VII, “Parks and Open Space,” for additional park policies and guidelines, and Chapter VIII, “Public Utilities and Service,” for additional school policies and guidelines. See the Development Agreement for the timing and details related to the construction of parks.)*
- 2. Generally, residential units shall be located no farther than 1/4 mile from a park.*

3. *Neighborhood developments are encouraged to provide mini parks, image landscaped features, and tot lots.*
4. *Parks shall be provided at a minimum standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents.*

RELIGIOUS FACILITIES GOALS

Goal 3.16 Encourage the establishment of religious facility sites to serve the diverse cultural and religious needs of the community.

RELIGIOUS FACILITIES POLICIES

Policy 3.12 Religious Facilities Location.

Figure 3.1, the “Land Use Diagram” indicates, at a minimum, the number of Religious Sites within the Plan Area. Additional religious and institutional uses may be provided elsewhere in the Plan Area, subject to County review and approval.

Policy 3.13 Transfer of Religious Facilities Development Rights.

Designated Religious Sites are overlay zones with underlying residential and non-residential land uses, selected to be compatible with surrounding land uses. Underlying land uses are indicated in parenthesis following the Religious (REL) site designation in Figure 3.1, the “Land Use Diagram.” All Religious Sites, when developed with a religious facility, shall be granted residential density bonus units that may be transferred elsewhere within the residential areas of the property or anywhere within the Plan Area.

The number of units allowed for transfer is based on the area of the Religious Site, calculated at a Medium Density Residential (MDR) density. The calculated density and maximum total number of bonus units reserved for transfer of Religious Sites for each property of record is indicated in Table 3.3. The same standards apply to Religious Sites with an underlying, non-residential land use, such as Business Park (BP) or Commercial/Mixed-use (CIMU). These sites shall also be allowed to transfer the reserved units from the Religious Site, calculated at a LDR density, within the residential land use areas of the project property, when the Religious Site develops. Refer to Section 9.2.7, “Density Transfers,” in Chapter IX, “Implementation,” for more detail on the density transfer program for Religious Sites in Placer Vineyards.

3.3 LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

The following section describes the intent of each of the Specific Plan land use categories and the types of land uses that are allowed in each category. The land use designations and the accompanying table of land uses provide the framework for future land use decisions within the Plan Area. The descriptions of the permitted land uses in the following pages are illustrative and do not include all permitted allowable uses. Refer to Appendix A for the complete list of permitted uses allowed in the Plan Area.

Policy 3.14 Land Use Designations.

The land use designations in the Specific Plan shall take precedence over existing comparable zoning designations in the Placer County Zoning Ordinance. Table 3-1 shows the relationship between Placer County zoning designations and Specific Plan land use designations (shown here for reference only). Permitted uses for each land use designation are included in Appendix A.

Policy 3.15 Land Use Designations to the Plan.

The development program (number of residential units in the Plan Area, permissible intensity of commercial development, and allocation of public uses for each parcel) is specified in Figure 3.1, the “Land Use Diagram” and Table 3-3, the “Land Use Ownership Summary.” The development program also allocates a specific allowable number of residential units and indicates the commercial development potential for each property of record in the Plan Area, as described in the following sections. Any subsequent development plan that exceeds the intensities assigned by the plan may be subject to the subsequent environmental review process. See Section 9.2.5, “Environmental Review,” in Chapter IX, “Implementation.”

The assigned residential intensities and total commercial acreages are listed in Table 3-3 and will also be identified in the Development Agreement for Placer Vineyards. Commercial intensities, defined by the floor area ratios (FAR), are provided under the commercial land use designation headings that follow and in Appendix A, “Land Use and Development Standards.” Likewise, allowable residential densities are identified under the residential land use designation headings that follow and are further defined and identified in the Development Standards in Appendix A.

Table 3-1 Specific Plan Comparable County Zoning Designations

Specific Plan Land Use Designations	Description	Comparable Placer County Zoning Ordinance Designations (See Section 17.06.050)
SPA	Special Planning Area	RA, C1, IN
LDR	Low Density Residential	RS
MDR	Medium Density Residential	RS, RM
HDR	High Density Residential	RM, RS
C/MU	Commercial/Mixed-Use	OP, CPD
COM/ TCC	Commercial/ Town Center Commercial	C1, C2, OP
BP	Business Park	BP, CPD, OP
PC	Power Center	BP, CPD, OP
O	Office	C1, C2, C3, CPD, HS, MT, OP, RES, AP, BP, IN, INP
REL	Religious Facility	RS, RM, RA, RF, C1, C2, C3, CPD, HS, MT, OP, RES, BP, IN, INP, F
PUB (C, CY, F, Gov, L, SS, T, RC)	Public Use	RS, RM, RA, RF, C1, C2, C3, CPD, HS, MT, OP, RES, AP, BP, IN, INP, F, FOR, O
ES, MS, HS	Schools	RS, RM, RA, RF, C1, C2, C3, CPD, MT, OP, RES, BP, F
OS	Open Space	O
P	Parks	RS, RM, RA, RF, C1, C2, C3, CPD, HS, MT, OP, RES, AP, BP, IN, INP, F, FOR, O

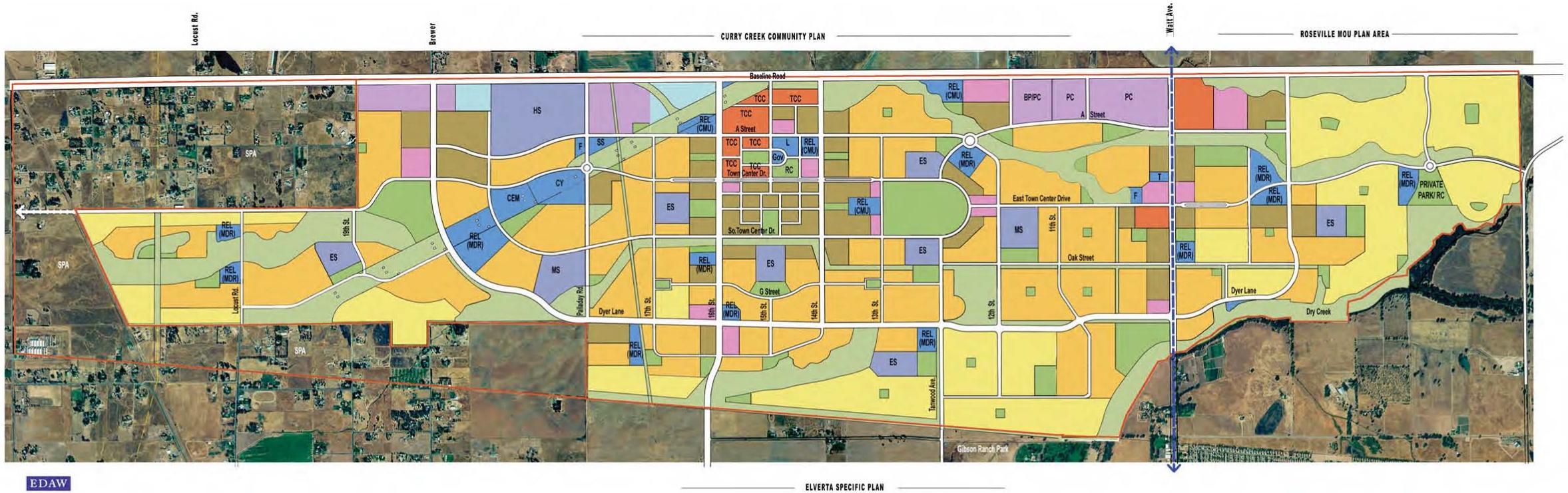
Policy 3.16 Allowable Land Uses.

Permitted land uses and Development Standards for each land use designation are included as Appendix A of this Specific Plan. Appendix A shall identify the uses allowed by right, uses allowed by Administrative Review Permit, uses allowed by Use Permit, and prohibited uses. The purpose of these permit requirements is to allow the County to evaluate proposed uses, to determine whether problems may occur, to ensure compatibility of adjoining uses, to provide the public the opportunity to review projects and identify issues and concerns in a public hearing (if determined to be necessary), to work with the applicants to adjust the project through conditions of approval, and to solve identified problems or to disapprove a project if problems cannot be adequately resolved.

Policy 3.17 Nuisance Uses.

Land uses that involve outdoor manufacturing or uses that may emit any visible gases, particulates, steam, heat, odor, vibration, glare, dust, or excessive noise from the exterior of a building are not allowed in the Plan Area. Such uses may include metal and plastic fabrication, heating and ventilation, dry cleaning, painting, and other similar activities that may be allowed if contained completely within the building interior.

Figure 3.1 Land Use Diagram



EDAW

July 2006

LEGEND

C/MU COMMERCIAL MIXED USE	SPA SPECIAL PLANNING AREA	ES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PUBLIC/ QUASI-PUBLIC USES		OS OPEN SPACE
COM COMMERCIAL	LDR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL	MS MIDDLE SCHOOL	REL RELIGIOUS FACILITY	CY CORPORATE YARD	P PARK
PC POWER CENTER	MDR MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL	HS HIGH SCHOOL	F FIRE	SS SUBSTATION	RC RECREATION CENTER
BP BUSINESS PARK	HDR HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL		Gov GOVERNMENT	T TRANSIT	
O OFFICE			L LIBRARY	C CEMETERY	
			Po Police		↔ BRT LINE



Table 3-2 Land Use Summary

Land Use	Acres	% of Total Acres	Units ⁵	% Unit Mix
Residential:				
Special Planning Area (SPA)	979.0	18.7%	411	1.9%
Low Density Residential (LDR)	686.0	13.1%	3,432	15.9%
Medium Density Residential (MDR)	1,213.0	23.2%	9,390	43.4%
High Density Residential (HDR)	341.5	6.5%	6,157	28.5%
Commercial:				
Commercial/Mixed-use (C/MU) ¹	94.5	1.8%	1,456	6.7%
Commercial (COM)	34.0	0.6%		
Town Center Commercial (TCC)	42.5	0.8%		
Business Park (BP)	62.0	1.2%		
Power Center (PC)	60.0	1.2%		
Business Park (BP/PC) ²	20.0	0.4%		
Office (O)	29.0	0.6%		
Public/Quasi-Public:				
Public Use (CEM, CY, F, Gov, L, PO, SS, T)	51.0	1.0%		
Schools (ES/MS/HS)	199.0	3.8%		
Religious Facilities (REL) ³	115.5	2.2%	785	3.6%
Parks and Open Space:				
Open Space (OS)	698.0	13.4%		
Parks (P) ⁴	284.0	5.4%		
Arterials and Collector Roads	321.0	6.1%		
Total	5,230.0	100.0%	21,631	100.0%

Notes:

- 1 Residential units in CMU acreage are devoted to housing at the density range indicated.
- 2 20 acres may be a BP or PC land use (see Figure 3.1, "Land Use Diagram," for site location).
- 3 Religious facility sites, when developed with religious facilities, provide additional bonus units at a MDR density, as indicated by Table 3-3. Religious density bonus units may be transferred as described in Section 9.2.7, "Density Transfer for Religious Sites."
- 4 24 acres of parks found in the active adult community (Property #1A) are private parks.
- 5 Refer to Table 3-3 for the allocation of units to individual properties.

LAND USE

RESIDENTIAL USES:

Low Density Residential (2 to 7 du/ac)

The Low Density Residential (LDR) areas are intended for single-family detached homes on lots greater than 4,000 square feet, duplex units, and similar and compatible uses. Refer also to the housing type examples in Appendix A under the LDR land use designation. Special housing types for elderly, active-adult, and community living are also allowed. The LDR neighborhoods also permit public and quasi-public uses such as schools, parks, and recreation facilities with appropriate buffers and access to major local roadways and collector streets.

The Land Use Diagram designates 686.0 acres of LDR uses. This designation allows a density range of 2 to 7 dwelling units per acre (du/ac). Refer to Table 3-3 for the distribution of total units to individual properties of record and to Appendix A for Residential Development Standards.

Medium Density Residential (6 to 15 du/ac)

The Medium Density Residential (MDR) areas are intended for a range of housing types, such as attached and detached single family detached homes, duplex, triplex, four-plex, six-plex, detached cluster housing, townhomes, condominiums, and similar and compatible uses. Refer also to the housing type examples in Appendix A under the MDR land use designation.

The Land Use Diagram provides 1,213 acres of MDR uses. This designation allows a density range of 6 to 15 du/ac. Refer to Table 3-3 for the distribution of total units to individual properties of record and to Appendix A for Residential Development Standards.

High Density Residential (12 to 35 du/ac)

The High Density Residential (HDR) land use designation allows for a range of housing types, including small-lot single family detached homes, duplex, cluster housing or motor courts, attached and detached townhomes, condominiums, apartments, and similar and compatible uses. Refer to housing type examples in Appendix A under the HDR land use designation.

The Land Use Diagram indicates 341.5 acres of High Density Residential uses. This designation allows a density range of 12 to 35 du/ac. A Use Permit is not required for units in this category if the development is consistent with the requirements of this

Specific Plan. However, Design/Site Review is required to determine design consistency. Refer to Table 3-3 for the distribution of total units to individual properties of record and to Appendix A for residential development standards.

Alternative housing designs are encouraged in all residential categories. The use of innovative subdivision designs, such as zero-lot-line patio homes, cluster home designs, garage units, and auto court arrangements or the use of duplex units that provide two single-family homes attached along a common wall, is encouraged. The number of units in the MDR and HDR categories should be maximized to the extent feasible to achieve a more transit-oriented development pattern.

COMMERCIAL USES:

Commercial (FAR Range: 0.20 to 0.30)

The Commercial (COM) land use designation allows for a variety of retail uses and services. These include small convenience stores and centers, neighborhood-serving shopping centers, and community-scale retail centers. Typical COM land uses include neighborhood grocery stores, drugstores, and retail stores providing household goods and services for the surrounding residential neighborhoods. The COM designation would also allow for banks and financial institution offices, realty and insurance offices, medical offices and professional offices, and gas stations and auto repair uses (limited in extent and located where compatible with adjoining land uses and subject to approval of a Minor Use Permit). The COM designation also allows for public and quasi-public uses, parks, libraries and museums, public utility and safety facilities, and other similar, compatible uses. Refer to Appendix A for the complete list of permitted uses in the COM land use designation.

The range of floor area ratio (FAR) applicable to the COM designation is between 0.20 to 0.30. The intensity utilized for the purpose of distributing Commercial intensity to individual properties of record is 0.25. Refer to Appendix A for the applicable Commercial Development Standards.

Town Center

The purpose of the town center is to create a pedestrian-oriented, easily accessible, mixed-use retail core in the heart of the Placer Vineyards community. The town center is intended to be a highly visible, higher intensity, active, social, and cultural gathering place. The town center supports a mix of uses with office or residential uses located above ground-floor retail shops. Ground-floor retail uses with mid-rise buildings, placed at the back of sidewalks, open onto wide pedestrian sidewalks, allowing for outdoor dining and retail displays.

Town Center Commercial (FAR Range: 0.35 to 2.0)

Uses encouraged in the Town Center Commercial (TCC) designation include all types of office uses (e.g., banks and medical offices), a variety of retail stores and services (e.g., furniture stores, clothing and household goods, music stores and video outlets, hotels, motels, restaurants, and bars), a variety of entertainment uses (e.g., movie theaters and nightclubs), and public and quasi-public uses (e.g., community recreation center, library, fire station, sheriff's substation, and religious facility); along with public parks, an outdoor performance stage, and plazas. The TCC use may also include locally-serving retail uses (grocery store <25,000 square feet, drugstore, and other local services). Refer to Appendix A for a more specific list of permitted uses in the TCC land use designation. The town center shall be designed to encourage outdoor eating and dining along its sidewalks.

The TCC designation is assumed to provide 80 percent retail uses and 20 percent office uses. The development of residential uses within the TCC designation, however, is also encouraged.

The FAR applicable to the TCC designation ranges from 0.35 to 2.0. For the purposes of distributing development intensities, the Land Use Diagram assumes that approximately 80 percent of this area will be developed with retail uses at an FAR of 0.45. The remaining 20 percent is anticipated to develop with office uses with the same FAR of 0.45. Refer to the Development Standards in Appendix A for allowed Town Center Commercial uses and applicable Development Standards.

Policy 3.18 Specialty Grocery Stores.

It is the intent of the Specific Plan to have the first specialty grocery store located in the town center, if feasible. The purpose of having the first specialty grocery store in the town center is to provide a catalyst that would assist in generating an intensity of commercial and pedestrian use in the heart of the Placer Vineyards community. To that end, the town center will have the exclusive rights for specialty grocery stores less than 25,000 square feet in size. Examples of specialty grocery stores are Trader Joe's, Whole Foods Market, or other similar type store concepts with a store size of less than 25,000 square feet.

Policy 3.19 Grocery Stores.

Similar to the intent expressed in the preceding policy, the Specific Plan encourages the siting of the first traditional grocery store in the town center. However, this policy also recognizes that if plans for other projects in the vicinity of Placer Vineyards include lands designated for a grocery store, market pressures may make it necessary to override this policy. As a result, the town center will have the exclusive right within the Plan Area to open a traditional grocery store, such as a Safeway, Albertson's, Raley's, or similar type stores for a period of 12 months following the issuance of a certificate of occupancy on the 250th

residential unit within the Specific Plan. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the City of Roseville approves a specific plan for a project adjacent to the Plan Area that is immediately north of Base Line Road, and the project includes a traditional grocery store component, then the right of exclusivity for traditional grocery stores in the town center shall become null and void, and any commercial owner in the Plan Area with properties zoned as PC, BP/PC and COM will be allowed to open a traditional grocery store without the restrictions described above. This right of exclusivity shall not apply to non-traditional grocery stores, such as a Wal-Mart, Food 4 Less, or similar type store.

Policy 3.20 Movie Theater and Other Entertainment Uses.

To encourage pedestrian activity and provide attractions that support local shops and restaurants in the town center, the town center shall have exclusive right to all movie theater uses within the Plan Area. Other entertainment uses including dance clubs, live music, theaters, and art galleries shall also be located primarily in the town center.

Commercial/Mixed-Use (15 to 35 du/ac) (FAR Range: 0.35 to 2.0)

The Commercial/Mixed-Use (C/MU) designation is intended to encourage a variety of projects with a mix of uses, including high density residential, retail, and office uses within one development. The C/MU designation allows for mixed-use neighborhood nodes of office and commercial uses on smaller sites integrated into the surrounding residential neighborhoods. Mixed-use developments may include both vertical mixed-use—ground floor commercial uses with residences or offices above, or horizontal mixed-use—commercial and residential development located on the same site with shared open space and direct pedestrian connections.

Typically found on the corners of collector and arterial streets, the C/MU designation allows flexibility for future market conditions and provides for local neighborhood services. The C/MU district also envisions uses such as live-work residential loft spaces with living units integrated into office spaces, commercial store fronts, and artist studios. C/MU areas will also allow religious facilities.

The C/MU designation allows for a residential density range of 15 to 35 du/ac. For the purposes of distributing development intensities, the land use plan assumes that approximately 70 percent of the development area will be developed with residential uses, as assigned in Table 3-3. The FAR applicable to the C/MU land use designation ranges from 0.35 to 2.0. The remaining 30 percent of the development area is assumed to develop with commercial uses evenly split between retail and office uses at a FAR of 0.45. Refer to Appendix A for allowed Commercial/Mixed-Use permitted uses and applicable Development Standards.

LAND USE

Policy 3.21 Parking in Commercial/Mixed-Use Sites.

For mixed-use projects, including the town center and village centers, parking may be shared between uses. To facilitate shared parking, a parking analysis shall be prepared during the Design/Site Review process that lists the project-specific assumptions for the mix of uses, outlines peak parking periods for each use type, and demonstrates that adequate parking will be provided. To relax the individual parking requirements, the County Planning Director shall determine that, based on the findings in the shared parking analysis, the entire project will not result in a parking shortfall.

Office (FAR Range: 0.25 to 0.45)

The Office (O) land use category is intended for professional and administrative office uses (e.g., finance, insurance, and banking offices), office parks for research and development, medical and dental facilities, and related incidental office-supporting commercial uses (e.g., copy centers, cafes, communication retail sales and services, and office supplies). Refer to Appendix A for the complete list of permitted uses in the Office land use designation.

The FAR applicable to the O land use designation ranges from 0.25 to 0.45. The intensity utilized for the purpose of distributing Office intensity to individual parcels of record is 0.30. Refer to the Development Standards in Appendix A for the applicable Development Standards.

Business Park (FAR Range: 0.20 to 0.45)

The purpose of the Business Park (BP) land use designation is to provide a wide-range of large-scale office, commercial, and light industrial land uses on large parcels. BP land uses will provide employment, commercial, and regional uses that will help foster a balance of jobs and housing and meet the economic goals of the Placer County General Plan. The BP land use designation also allows for flexibility to meet changing market conditions over time. The BP designation allows for a mix of office park uses (e.g., light industrial, “high-tech” manufacturing and assembly, distribution, warehousing, research and development, and medical and dental facilities) and supporting retail commercial uses (e.g., business services and office support services). The BP designation also allows for public and quasi-public uses such as commercial recreation uses, religious facilities, and private school and university facilities.

The BP designation allows for office and retail development within a FAR range of 0.20 to 0.45. For the purposes of distributing development intensities, the land use plan assumes that the BP development area will develop with 10 percent retail uses and 90 percent office uses at a FAR of 0.25. Refer to the Development Standards in Appendix A for the allowed Business Park uses and applicable Development Standards.

Power Center (FAR Range: 0.20 to 0.35)

The Power Center (PC) land use is envisioned for large-scale retail stores providing goods and services for the regional market. Stores include, but are not limited to, home improvement and large-scale gardening centers, large-scale discount centers, furniture, computers, household goods and groceries, auto sales and services, auto service stations, tire stores, large-scale clothing outlets, and other uses typically found in power centers. PC uses may also include restaurants and drinking establishments, and fast-food outlets (including drive-thru facilities). The PC designation will also allow for the location of public and quasi-public uses such as commercial recreation uses, religious facilities, and private schools and university facilities.

The FAR applicable to the PC land use designation ranges from 0.20 to 0.35. For the purposes of distributing development intensities, the land use plan assumes that the PC development area will be 100 percent retail uses at a FAR of 0.25. Refer to the Development Standards in Appendix A for the allowed Power Center uses and applicable Development Standards.

Business Park/Power Center

20 acres are designated with a Business Park/Power Center (BP/PC) land use in the Plan Area. The BP/PC designation allows uses from both the BP land use and the PC land use categories, defined above. The FAR applicable to the BP/PC land use designation ranges from 0.25 to 0.45 for Business Park uses and 0.20 to 0.35 for Power Center uses. For the purposes of distributing development intensities, the land use plan assumes that the BP/PC development area will develop as a Power Center with 80 percent retail uses and 20 percent office uses at a FAR of 0.25. Refer to Appendix A, Section 3.7, “Business Park” or Section 3.8, “Power Center” for BP/PC development standards and to Table A-13 for permitted Business Park and Power Center uses.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE USES:

The parks, recreation, and open space system proposed for Placer Vineyards incorporates approximately 982 acres of parks and open space to be used for active and passive recreation. 3 large community-sized parks are distributed in the Plan Area, as well as 2 large open space oak preserve areas. 7 joint-use park/school sites, over 50 neighborhood and mini parks, and several smaller image parks, are dispersed throughout the Plan Area. A dog park shall also be provided. Development of other mini parks or pocket parks large enough for tot lots and other recreation facilities, but not indicated in the Land Use Diagram, are also encouraged. In addition, a series of trails linked to several east-west and north-south open space corridors provide neighborhood connections throughout the Plan Area. Information on trails is provided in Chapter V, "Transportation and Circulation." Additional details on the parks and open space system are described in Chapter VII, "Parks and Open Space."

Open Space

The Open Space (OS) land use designation is intended to protect the natural areas, creeks, wetlands, and specified tree groves within the Plan Area. Open space will include flood control and drainage channels, properties within power line easements, and special setback areas, such as along the Placer/Sacramento County line. Open Space areas may have compatible uses, including trails and other active and passive recreational uses, including their associated parking lots.

A total of 698 acres (approximately 13.3 percent of the Plan Area) is designated Open Space. This category includes only natural and/or passive open space and does not include parks.

Oak Grove Open Spaces

Concentrations of significant oak trees on the site are preserved in 2 large oak grove open space areas. These oak grove areas provide open space amenities to the community and provide passive recreational opportunities, such as picnic areas, quiet seating areas, and trail loops.

Park

A variety of park types and sizes are planned for Placer Vineyards under the Park (P) designation. Each park is planned and designed with a range of park facilities, depending on the character of the park. The park types and characteristics are described below.

Mini Parks (Pocket Parks)

Mini parks can be as small as 1/4 to 1/2 acre in size, but are more typically 1 to 2 acre sites that provide green space and passive recreation opportunities for a specific neighborhood. Uses and activities may include tot lots/playgrounds, half-court basketball, open turf areas, picnic areas with barbecues and a minimum of 2 tables, a shade structure or adequate shading provided by trees, and security lighting. Not all of the mini parks are shown in the Land Use Diagram, but providing mini parks in large residential developments is encouraged.

Town Center Green

A 4-acre town center green is centrally located in the town center. The town center green is intended to serve as a civic, cultural, and community focal point, designed to complement the design themes within the town center. The town center green will include play areas, picnic areas, an outdoor space configured for performances, open areas for farmers' markets or other informal uses, and a water feature or other landmark feature as a focal point.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks range from 2 to 15 acres in size. 7 joint-use school/park sites are also included in this category. Facilities planned for joint-use school/park sites should take into consideration proposed school facilities to maximize the recreation facilities of both. These parks should also be designed to operate independently of the school facilities, if necessary.

Community Parks

3 large community parks are located in the Plan Area. The East Community Park is located at the southeast corner of Watt Avenue and Dyer Lane, adjacent to the Dry Creek Parkway. The West Community Park is bounded to the east by West Dyer Lane, just northwest of the power line easement corridor. The Central Community Park is located near center of the community, east of the Town Center. Community parks will include active recreation uses such as ball fields, passive recreation uses such as trails and picnic areas, and other support facilities such as restrooms, concession stands, and parking and staging areas for bicyclists and runners. Each community park will also contain a small shop and yard for park maintenance. Additionally, these parks may be used for meetings, neighborhood activities, special-interest groups, and youth and adult sports leagues.

LAND USE

Private Parks

Private parks and a recreation center are provided within the active adult community in the eastern portions of the Plan Area, identified in Figure 7.1, “Parks and Open Space Plan Diagram.” Private parks shall count toward satisfying the park dedication requirements for the project, subject to the conditions for private parks found in Section 16.08.100-I, “Private Facilities Credit” in the *Placer County Code*.

Recreation Center (Only in Town Center)

The Placer Vineyards Specific Plan envisions the development of a large community-wide recreation facility, designated RC on the Land Use Diagram, to add to the vitality and community life of the town center. The Recreation Center is planned as a large indoor and outdoor recreation facility with indoor meeting rooms, fitness rooms and equipment, and associated offices. Outdoor facilities may include tennis courts or basketball courts, plazas, and picnic or gathering areas.

Landscaped Rights-of-Way and Entries

Landscape corridors and landscaped areas are provided along public street rights-of-way as networks of green spaces designed to enhance the visual and environmental quality of the Plan Area for pedestrians and other visitors. Landscape entry features and gateways are also provided in the community to help define different parts of the community. These are landscaped, themed features at the entrances to major intersections of the community or smaller signature features in residential neighborhoods. Landscaped rights-of-way and entries are not counted within the park or open space requirements for this project. Landscape rights-of-way shall be developed and dedicated to the County at the same time that the public street rights-of-way are developed and dedicated to the County. See Chapter VI, “Community Design,” for additional streetscape and community gateway design guidelines.

PUBLIC AND QUASI-PUBLIC USES:

The Placer Vineyards Specific Plan provides for a broad range of cultural, public/quasi-public, and religious uses, strategically located throughout the Plan Area. Nestled within the Placer Vineyards neighborhoods and village centers and connected with local trails and bicycle paths, these areas provide for cultural activities that enrich the character and quality of the community in proximity to where people live. These uses are listed below.

Cemetery

Cemetery (C) designates property subdivided into cemetery lots and offering burial plots or air space for sale.

Corporation Yard

A shared corporation yard (CY) is provided to accommodate the following facility needs of the County:

- ◆ Sheriff's Department vehicle and equipment storage area,
- ◆ Fire Department training and storage facility,
- ◆ Special District's office and shop area,
- ◆ Facilities Services Department maintenance yard,
- ◆ Fleet/Transit maintenance building space, yard, and fueling facility,
- ◆ Shared office space for transit, fleet services and roads, and
- ◆ Roads Division storage and employee areas

Fire

Two fire stations (F) and an administrative center are provided in the Plan Area. One fire station serves the eastern side of the Plan Area and is located on Town Center Drive near Watt Avenue. The other fire station is located on the west side of the Plan Area, at the intersection of Palladay Road and A Street. A fire administrative center will be collocated with other County administrative offices in the Town Center.

Government/Sheriff

A government (Gov) office facility will be located in the town center, housing administrative offices. A small Sheriff's Substation will be collocated with the government office in the town center to provide policing and local public safety services.

Library

A library (L) facility is centrally located in the town center to provide literary, educational, and informational resources to the community.

Religious Site

Religious Sites (REL) are defined as religious organization facilities operated for worship or promotion of religious activities, such as churches, synagogues and temples. Religious Sites also include religious accessory uses on the same site, including living quarters for staff, child day care facilities, and other uses normally associated with a religious facilities (e.g., schools and recreation facilities), as approved by the Planning Director.

Pursuant to Policy 3.13, residential or other underlying land uses may be permitted for Religious Site, should a user for a Religious Site not be forthcoming. Refer to the table of allowed uses for the underlying land use designation, found in Appendix A, "Land Use and Development Standards."

Transit Station

A multi-modal transit station or terminal (T) is provided in the Plan Area within the east village center with access provided from Watt Avenue. The station/terminal will serve to distribute information on local transit options and serve as a passenger terminal and transfer station for public mass-transit systems including a future, potential bus rapid transit line along Watt Avenue.

Utility Substation

The utility substation (SS) designation allows for electrical substations, pumping stations, pressure regulation stations, or similar facility required to serve the Plan Area.

SCHOOLS:

7 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 1 high school are designated by the ES, MS, and HS symbols on the Land Use Diagram. The Land Use Diagram designates 199 acres for schools.

School sites are situated adjacent to park sites and open space to allow for joint use of facilities, trail access, and efficient use of the land. Joint school/park sites are centrally placed within each neighborhood to provide a focus for neighborhood interaction and to allow children to walk to school. School sites have been located based on the estimated number of students in each surrounding neighborhood and may need to be revised slightly based on actual build-out densities. Schools are sized for "stand alone" facilities, which may develop independently of parks.

Policy 3.22 Land Use for Unused School Sites.

If the responsible School District decides that a school site shown in the Land Use Diagram is not needed, residential development will be permitted at the residential density of the predominant land use adjacent to the designated school site. The total number of residential units allocated to the underlying parcel of record as of the date of the adoption of this Specific Plan (see Table 3-3) will not be increased by the readjustment of the land use. The neighborhood park site located adjacent to the excess school site shall remain as indicated on the Land Use Diagram, providing a central focus for the neighborhood.

If subsequent to the development of the property adjacent to a school site, the School District decides it no longer has a need for the property, it will be necessary to amend the Specific Plan to define the appropriate use of the property.

Elementary Schools

Elementary schools (ES) serve kindergarten through grades 5 or 6 (depending on the school district). Elementary school sites are 12 acres in size with an adjacent neighborhood park. They are located within residential neighborhoods, within easy walking distance (1/2 mile radius), and provide easy auto access from local residential and collector streets.

Middle Schools

Middle school (MS) sites are planned for 22.5 acres in size and will serve grades 6 through 7 or 8 (depending on the school district). 2 middle schools are provided. These are located within residential neighborhoods on major collector streets.

High School

The High School (HS) site, located on Palladay Road between A Street and Base Line Road, is 70 acres. It is planned to serve grades 9 through 12 and is sited on collector streets, in proximity to the surrounding residential community, local commercial services, and adjacent to park facilities located in the community park.

LAND USE

SPECIAL PLANNING AREA:

The Special Planning Area (SPA) designation is located on approximately 979 acres at the western portion of the Plan Area and includes the existing Riego area. There are approximately 150 existing homes within the SPA. Approximately 200 (or 87 percent) of the 230± existing parcels within the SPA are 5 acres or less in size, with the majority being less than 2 acres and located primarily in the Riego township area. The remaining approximately 30 parcels range in size from 5 to 96 acres and are generally located in the vicinity of Newton Street, south of Browning and Colburn Streets. Refer to Figure 3.2 for a map of the SPA.

Of the 21,631 units within the Plan Area, a total of 411 total units are reserved in the SPA for the eventual build-out of this area. These 411 units include the 150 existing homes, leaving an additional 261 new homes allowed for development in the SPA. The 261 additional units reserved for the potential build-out of parcels within the SPA area include: 63 new units allowed to develop consistent with their current zoning and 198 units allowed to develop under the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan and the Specific Plan EIR on a first come, first serve basis. Property owners who choose to subdivide their properties beyond that allowed under current zoning in the SPA will be required to amend this plan (refer to Section 9.2.6).

The main trunk lines of the Placer Vineyards infrastructure system (water, wastewater, and drainage systems) will be sized to serve the anticipated build-out of up to 411 total units reserved within the SPA. Property owners of the SPA may connect to infrastructure systems in the Plan Area but shall be responsible for the costs incurred from the extension of services to their property, including any hook up fees, Plan Area, or Special District fees.

Policy 3.23 Special Planning Area.

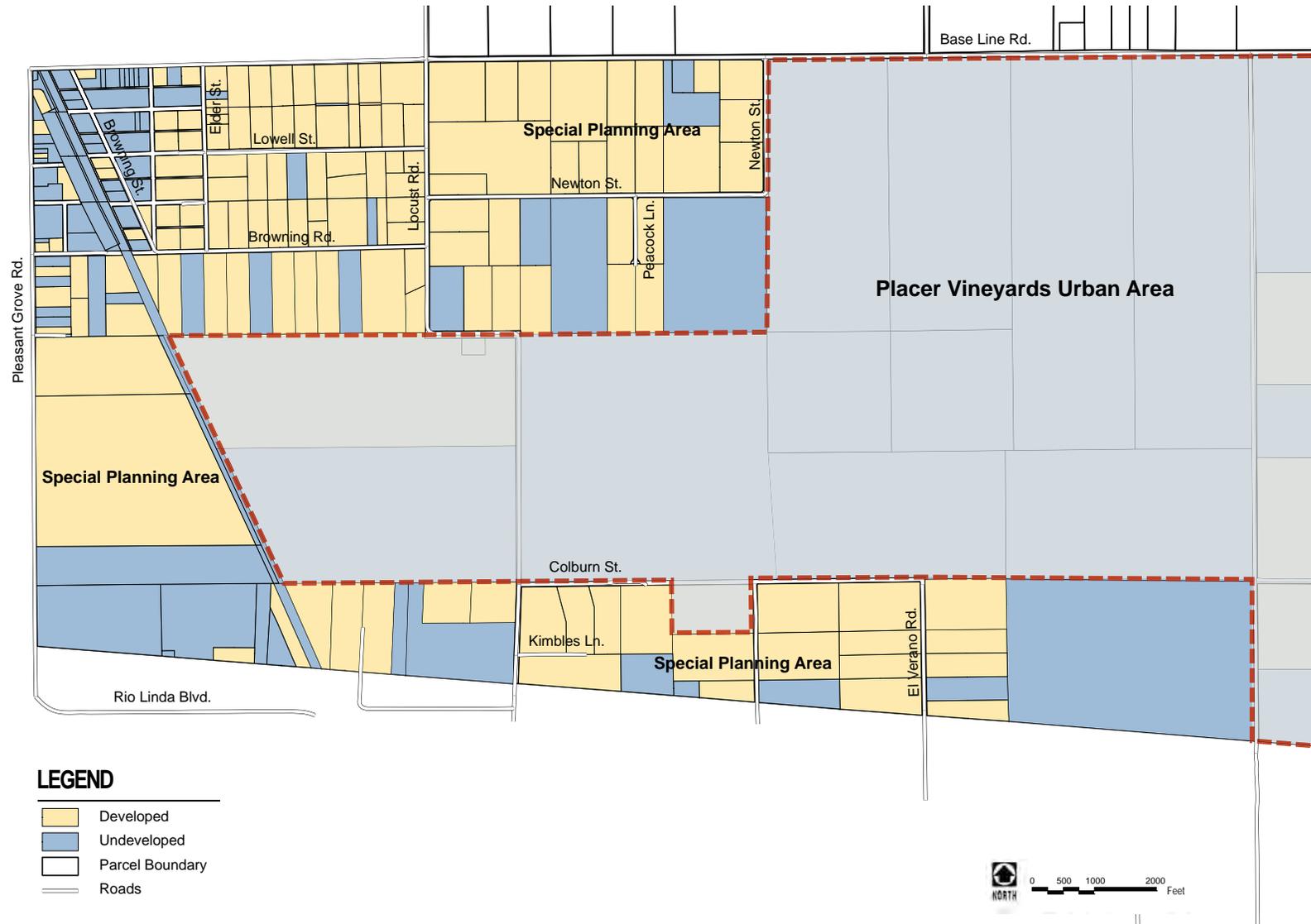
This Specific Plan does not revise or designate zoning for the SPA properties. The corresponding existing zoning for these SPA properties and existing County administrative processes shall govern. Refer to Chapter IX, Section 9.6-D, “Entitlements in the Special Planning Area” for the procedures for requesting entitlements in the SPA.

3.4 LAND OWNERSHIP AND LAND USE ALLOCATION

Figure 3.3 and Table 3-3 summarize the development program for each property owner in the Plan Area. Within the development program, the following standards shall apply.

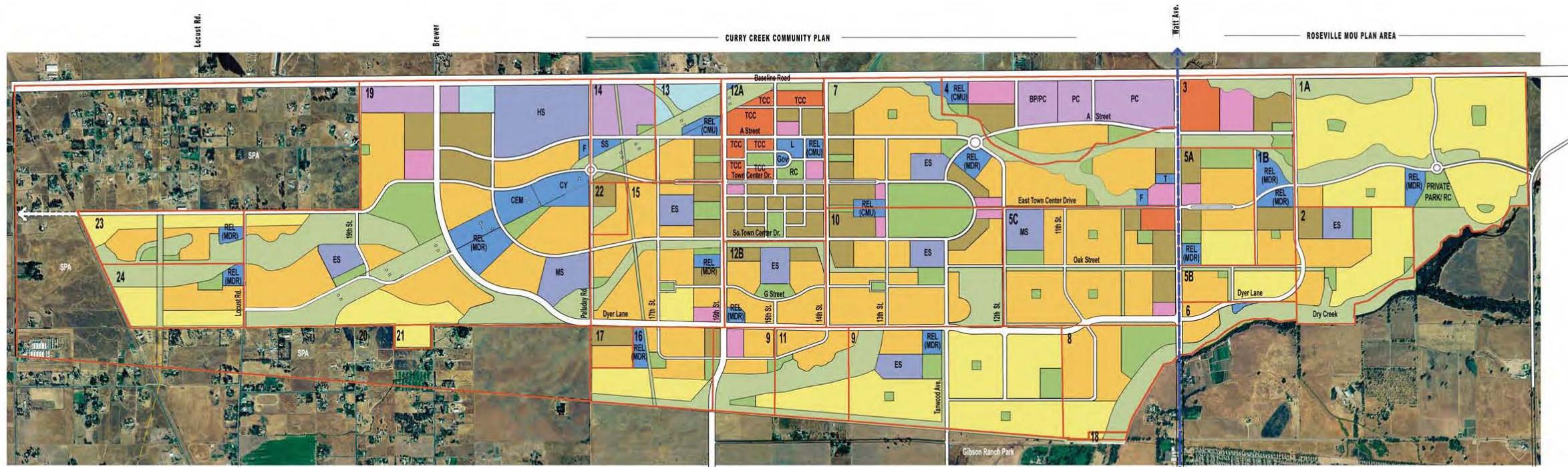
1. No property may exceed the permitted density range for the land use designation or the allowable number of residential units and commercial intensities assigned to the property in Table 3-3 without a rezoning, Specific Plan amendment, and additional environmental review. However, to provide development flexibility, development transfers between land use parcels is permitted, provided that they meet the criteria set forth in “Density Transfers,” described in Chapter IX, “Implementation.”
2. When constructed at the same time as the primary residential unit is being constructed on a lot, a secondary dwelling shall be counted as a residential unit for the purposes of calculating the total number of units allowed for a property under Table 3-3. Each such secondary dwelling shall be subject to payment of all fees payable by the primary unit, including those required under the applicable provisions of the development agreement. Lots where secondary dwellings are proposed to be constructed shall be identified as part of any application for the tentative subdivision map for the property.

Figure 3.2 Special Planning Area Location Map



Source: Placer County Planning 2005

Figure 3.3 Land Use Ownership Diagram

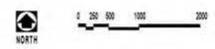


EDAW

July 2006

LEGEND

C/MU COMMERCIAL/ MIXED USE	SPA SPECIAL PLANNING AREA	ES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PUBLIC/ QUASI-PUBLIC USES	OS OPEN SPACE
CON COMMERCIAL	LDR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL	MS MIDDLE SCHOOL	REL RELIGIOUS FACILITY	P PARK
PC POWER CENTER	MDR MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL	HS HIGH SCHOOL	F FIRE	RC RECREATION CENTER
BP BUSINESS PARK	HDR HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL		Gov GOVERNMENT	
O OFFICE			L LIBRARY	
			Pg Police	
			CY CORPORATE YARD	
			SS SUBSTATION	
			T TRANSIT	
			C CEMETERY	
				←→ BRT LINE



LAND USE

Table 3-3 Land Use Ownership Summary

Property ID#	AP#	Property Owner	Gross Parcel Acreage	SPA		LDR 2-7 du/ac		MDR 6-15 du/ac		HDR 12-35 du/ac		COM.	OFF	CMU ⁽²⁾ 15-35 du/ac		BP/PC ⁽³⁾	Pub ⁽⁴⁾	Schools			Parks ⁽⁵⁾	OS	Major Roads	Total Units	12 ^(6,7) REL Sites	Additional Units @ LDR density	Current Total w/ REL	
				Acres	Units	Acres	Units	Acres	Units	Acres	Units			Acres	Units			Acres	Acres	MS Acres								HS Acres
1A	023-221-001, 002; 023-200-005	Doyle/TR et al	402.0			253.0	1,265	9.0	56								7.0				24.0	89.0	20.0	1,321	7.0	54	1,375	
1B	023-200-006	Hodel	56.0					14.0	127	11.0	198						17.0				4.0	3.5	6.5	325	17.0	131	456	
2	023-200-017	Mourier	138.0			51.0	255	32.0	252	9.0	162									12.0	9.0	20.0	5.0	669			669	
3	023-200-037	Auburn & Van Maren, et al	100.5							17.0	316	25.0			18.0	277	4.0				6.0	26.5	8.0	593			593	
4	023-200-029, 064, 065	Placer 536, B&W 60 LLP	179.5					31.5	242	11.0	198			15.0	231	80.0	5.0				8.0	20.0	9.0	671	5.0	39	710	
5A	023-200-062	Richard Riolo	106.5			21.0	105	48.5	375	9.0	162			4.0	62		5.0				10.0		9.0	704	5.0	39	743	
5B	023-200-063	Riolo	51.0			19.0	95	21.0	166												1.5	5.0	4.5	261			261	
5C	023-200-015, 028	Riolo LP	241.5					154.0	1,191	25.0	450	9.0		5.5	85				22.5		11.0	6.5	8.0	1,726			1,726	
6	023-200-018	Dana-Yeck	39.0					15.0	127								1.5						5.0	127			127	
7	023-200-045, 066	Woodside Reynen & Bardis 356	357.0					146.5	1,132	40.5	729			11.0	169		18.0			12.0			29.0	2,030	13.0	100	2,130	
8	023-200-041	Spinelli/Millspin Investments, LP	120.0			19.0	95	48.5	356												22.0	24.5	6.0	451			451	
9	023-200-010, 012, 013	PCLS, LLC	326.0			157.5	788	30.0	239	2.5	45			8.5	131		5.0			12.0	19.0	61.5	30.0	1,203	5.0	39	1,242	
10	023-200-009	Dyer Lane LP	242.0					114.5	884	27.5	495			5.0	77		4.0			12.0	34.0	30.0	15.0	1,456	4.0	31	1,487	
11	023-200-011	P.G.G. Properties	79.0			16.5	83	30.0	232												3.0	27.5	2.0	315			315	
12A	023-200-067	Tony Giannoni	196.0							57.5	1,035	42.5		12.0	185		12.0				15.0	20.0	37.0	1,220	5.0	39	1,259	
12B	023-200-068	Pellini, et al	102.0					49.5	391	12.0	216						3.5			12.0	6.0	6.5	12.5	607	3.5	27	634	
13	023-010-024; 023-200-060	Cabral, et al	80.0					16.0	129	11.0	198		17.5				7.5				3.0	13.0	12.0	327	7.5	35	362	
14	023-010-026	D.F. Properties, Inc.	80.0					8.5	61	3.5	63					32.5	4.5				3.0	20.0	8.0	124			124	
15	023-010-004, 029; 023-200-008	Palladay Greens, LLC	202.0			12.5	63	97.0	749	20.0	360			5.5	85		5.0			12.0	11.0	23.0	16.0	1,257	5.0	39	1,296	
16	023-010-006, 014	Placer 88 Investments	94.0			26.5	133	32.5	251	4.5	81						5.5				4.5	16.0	4.5	465	5.5	42	507	
17	023-010-013	J.A. Sioukas Family Partners LP	19.5					11.5	87	8.0	144													231			231	
18	023-200-041	Mamood Nasser	3.5			1.0	4															2.5		4			4	
19	023-010-021, 022, 023; 023-150-026, 027; 023-180-005, 006, 007, 008	Baseline A&B Holding/ Lennar Winncrest	816.5			47.5	238	231.5	1,784	66.0	1,188		11.5	10.0	154	29.5	58.0		12.0	22.5	70.0	43.0	150.0	65.0	3,364	25.0	108	3,472
21	023-019-016	Pandeleon	10.5			10.0	50																0.5	50			50	
22	023-010-028	Slight	22.5					11.5	91	6.5	117												4.5	208			208	
23	023-160-011	PMF5C	92.5			23.5	118	31.5	244								4.0				4.5	22.5	6.5	362	4.0	31	393	
24	023-160-004	Pandeleon, et al	94.0			28.0	140	29.0	224								4.0				4.5	26.0	2.5	364	4.0	31	395	
SPA	Various	Various	979.0	979.0	411																			411			411	
Totals			5,230.0	979.0	411	686.0	3,432	1,213.0	9,390	341.5	6,157	76.5	29.0	94.5	1,456	142.0	166.5	84.0	45.0	70.0	284.0	698.0	321.0	20,486	115.5	785	21,631	

Table 3-3 Notes:

- (1) Acres are approximations and subject to change with more detailed mapping, final alignment of roadways, and etc.
- (2) C/MU units are calculated at 70% area coverage.
- (3) 20 acres may be a BP or PC land use (See Figure 3.1, Land Use Diagram, for BP/PC site location.)
- (4) Public acres include Religious Site.
- (5) 24 acres of parks found in the active adult community (Property #1A) are private parks.
- (6) Religious Sites retain underlying land use designations as shown in the Land Use Diagram. Also see Policies 3.12 and 3.13.
- (7) 14 acres of Religious Site are located under power lines and do not count toward bonus density units.

LAND USE

3.5 LAND USE ANALYSIS

3.5.1 POPULATION SUMMARY

At final build-out, the population of Placer Vineyards is estimated to be approximately 49,339 residents. Table 3.4 is a summary of the number of residential unit types and an estimate of the total population of the Plan Area at build-out.

3.5.2 HOUSING SUMMARY

Residential Density:

Residential land uses encompass approximately 62.8 percent of the total property within the Plan Area, of which 18.7 percent is designated as a Special Planning Area (SPA). The distribution of residential unit types is indicated below in Table 3-4.

Table 3-4 Population and Housing Summary

Unit Type	Density Range (du/ac)	Dwelling Units (du)	% Mix of Units	Household Size (population / du)	Estimated Population
Low Density (Active Adult)	2-7	1,275	5.9%	1.8	2,295
Low Density ⁽¹⁾	2-7	2,157	10.0%	2.5	5,393
Medium Density (Active Adult)	6-15	56	0.3%	1.8	101
Medium Density	6-15	10,119	46.8%	2.5	25,298
High Density	12-35	6,157	28.4%	2	12,314
Commercial Mixed-use	15-35	1,456	6.7%	2	2,912
Special Planning Area		411	1.9	2.5	1,028
Total		21,631	100.0%		49,339

Notes:

(1) Includes density bonus units from Religious Site

Residential Development Standards

Residential Development Standards for residential land use designations can be found in Appendix A, “Land Use and Development Standards.” Residential design guidelines are also provided in Chapter VI, “Community Design.”

Density Transfer for Religious Sites

Religious Sites designated in the Plan Area are overlay zones with underlying land use designations, as indicated in Figure 3.1: the “Land Use Diagram.” Discussion of residential density transfer within the Plan Area is addressed in Policies 3.12 and 3.13 and in Chapter IX, “Implementation.”

Affordable Housing

The Placer County Housing element sets forth policies and programs intended to provide the opportunity for the County to meet its fair share regional housing allocation and to provide an adequate housing supply for County citizens of all income levels. Placer Vineyards will be required to construct 10% of the dwelling units, within the boundary of the project as affordable to very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. The affordable housing program and any affordable housing agreement for the Plan Area shall be determined in accordance with the policies of this Specific Plan, the General Plan Housing Element, State affordable housing laws and requirements, and the approved Development Agreement.

Assuming the development of 21,631 residential units, the project will be required to provide land to accommodate 2,122 units for very low-, low-, and moderate-income households, as distributed in Table 3-5. Refer to Policy 3.27 for standards on distributing affordable housing units.

For the purposes of this plan housing affordability is based on household incomes defined by the State of California Housing and Community Development (HCD). Very low income households have incomes no greater than 50% of the Placer County median income. Low income households have incomes between 51% and 80% of the Placer County median income. Moderate income households have incomes between 81% and 120% of the Placer County median income. Incomes are adjusted by household size. The HCD determines the median income for Placer County annually.

Table 3-5 Summary of Affordable Housing Obligation

Affordability Category	Required Allocation (Percentage of Total Units)	Number of Affordable Units Required
Very Low Income	4%	849
Low Income	4%	849
Moderate Income	2%	424
Total	10%	2,122

* These totals represent the affordable obligations of the urban portion of the Plan Area which contains 21,220 homes and does not include the 411 homes allocated to the SPA.

Affordable Housing Goals

Goal 3.17 Provide at least 10 percent of the residential units in the Specific Plan Area as affordable housing and distribute affordable residential units throughout the community.

Affordable Housing Policies

Policy 3.24 Affordable Housing Requirement.

In compliance with State Law, new development shall provide at least 10 percent of the total residential units in the Plan Area (2,122 units) at a price affordable to very low-, low-, and moderate income households (see Table 3.5).

Policy 3.25 Affordable Housing Obligation.

Owners of residential land will be required to satisfy the affordable housing obligation by constructing a minimum of 10 percent of the units for occupancy by very low-, low-, and moderate-income households, concurrent to and in proportion with development of market rate units within the balance of the property, as defined in the Development Agreement.

LAND USE

Policy 3.26 Affordable Housing Options.

While individual property owners are responsible for ensuring that land is sufficient to accommodate the number of affordable units is available, the Development Agreement shall provide flexibility regarding how the units are provided. Property owners have two options:

- 1) They shall construct the units as part of their market-rate developments generally concurrently and in proportion with the development of market-rate units within the balance of the property, as defined in the Development Agreement, or*
- 2) They shall choose to use one or more of the affordable housing options also specified in the Development Agreement.*

Policy 3.27 Distribution.

Affordable housing units shall be provided as either purchase or rental units, or a mixture of both. For sale/purchase affordable units, including duplex units, may be located anywhere within the Plan Area, provided that the affordable units shall not be clustered together in one location.

Policy 3.28 Concurrent Development of Affordable Units.

Landowners and the County shall enter into Development Agreements that ensures, generally, concurrent development of affordable housing units and development of market-rate units. At the time of approval of the Specific Plan, a Development Agreement will be required to identify the terms for the implementation of affordable housing units. Affordable units shall also be identified on all individual tentative subdivision maps and disclosed to future property owners.

3.5.3 EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Table 3.7 estimates potential jobs based on the projected number of employees per acre for office and retail uses. The estimate for school employees assumes 1 employee per 17 students. At full build-out, the Plan Area will provide approximately 8,270 jobs, or approximately 0.4 job per household.

Table 3-6 Employment Summary

Land Use Category	Acres	FAR	Gross Square Feet (GSF)	GSF/Employee	Total Jobs
Retail Uses					
COM: Commercial	34.00	0.25	370,260	500	741
C/MU: Commercial/Mixed-Use Retail (15% of C/MU Total Area)	14.18	0.45	277,858	500	556
TCC: Town Center Commercial Retail (80% of TCC Total Area)	34.00	0.45	666,468	500	1,333
BP: Business Park Retail (10% of BP Total Area)	6.20	0.25	67,518	500	135
PC: Power Center (100% Retail)	60.00	0.25	653,400	500	1,307
BP/PC: Business Park/Power Center ⁽¹⁾ Retail (80% of BP/PC Total Area)	16.00	0.25	174,240	500	348
Subtotal Retail Uses	164.38		2,209,744		4,419
Office Uses					
O: Office	29.0	0.30	378,972	400	947
C/MU: Commercial/Mixed-Use Office (15% of C/MU Total Area)	14.18	0.45	277,858	333	834
TCC: Town Center Commercial Office (20% of Town Center Commercial Total)	8.50	0.45	166,617	333	500
BP: Business Park Retail (90% of BP Total Area)	55.8	0.25	607,662	750	810
BP/PC: Business Park/Power Center ¹ Office (20% of BP/PC Total Area)	4.00	0.25	43,560	750	58
Subtotal Office Uses	111.48		1,474,669		3,150
Schools ²	199.00		11,908 students	1 per 17 students	700
Total	474.86		3,684,414		8,270

Notes:

1. 20 acres may be a BP or PC land use (See Figure 3.1, "Land Use Diagram," for site location).
2. Refer to school enrollment summary table.

3.6 LAND USE DESIGN AND COMPATIBILITY

Good planning and design can help to increase compatibility between different land uses, reduce potential conflicts, and make for better neighbors. The design and land use pattern of Placer Vineyards is organized to provide an appropriate level of compatibility to adjoining rural residential and agricultural uses as well as between higher intensity commercial and adjoining residential uses.

Compatibility of adjoining land uses is concerned with potential impacts and nuisances that may be created as a result of different levels of activity. Examples of such nuisances may include noise, odors, light and dust, use of chemicals and fertilizers, unwanted traffic and congestion, unwanted views, shade and shadow impacts, and the height, scale and character of the built environment. Creating greater compatibility between disparate land use activities can be achieved through use of appropriate land use patterns and site designs, providing appropriate buffers, or through increased setbacks.

Goal 3.18 Organize the site design and land use patterns in Placer Vineyards to provide an appropriate level of compatibility to adjoining land uses and reduce potential nuisance conflicts.

Policy 3.29 *Compatibility to Adjoining Large-Lot Rural and Agricultural Uses.*
The design and land use pattern of Placer Vineyards shall be organized to provide an appropriate level of compatibility to adjoining rural residential and agricultural uses.

1. *Land use intensities and densities in Placer Vineyards should be stepped down approaching or adjoining rural residential and agricultural uses to create a more compatible transition between uses.*
2. *Open space buffers shall be provided along the entire edge of the Special Planning Area (SPA). Refer to Section 7.3, "Open Space," in Chapter VII, "Parks and Open Space," for the design of open space landscape buffer areas adjacent to the SPA (see Figure 7.10 for required open space buffer setbacks and locations).*
3. *To buffer land in agricultural preserve under the Williamson Act, located north of Baseline Road, a minimum 200-foot setback shall be maintained from the northern existing edge of pavement of Baseline Road for all non-open space and non-infrastructure-related land uses located south of Baseline Road. This 200-foot setback shall only apply to those parcels that are located south of lands that are in active rice farming or located in an agricultural preserve that remains under Williamson Act contract at the time of development. See Figure 3.5 for a map of the location of the Williamson Act agricultural preserve.*

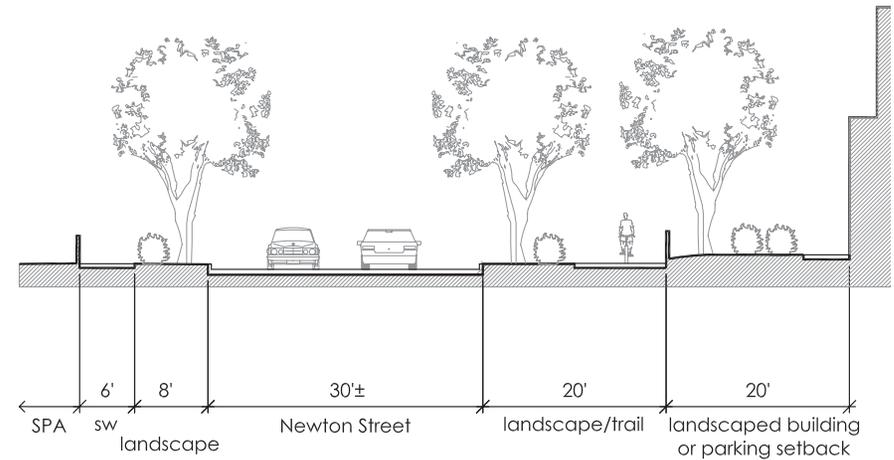
4. *Open space setbacks and surface drainage swales shall be used as a buffer between residential and adjoining agricultural and rural land uses.*
5. *Site design of residential neighborhoods shall employ a number of techniques as a buffer to adjoining uses, including larger lots, larger front or rear yard setbacks, loop roads, cul-de-sacs, single-loaded streets, and open space and landscaped setback buffers. Refer to Section 6.4.1, "General Lot Design," in Chapter VI, "Community Design," for residential lot design guidelines.*
6. *Local streets in new residential neighborhoods shall have limited connections to existing local rural lanes and streets to avoid traffic and parking in adjoining agricultural areas.*
7. *To provide an appropriate level of compatibility between rural residential uses in the Special Planning Area (SPA) and the development of the business park property at the southeast corner of Baseline Road and Newton Street, the following provisions shall apply.*
 - a. *Provide a minimum 70-foot buffer from the west side of Newton Street to the nearest business park building or parking space. This buffer shall consist of a 30± foot distance provided by existing Newton Street, a 20-foot on-site landscaped corridor (see Figure 7.10), and 20-foot on-site building and/or parking side yard setback. The 20 foot on-site side yard setback shall be landscaped (see the buffer section in Figure 3.4).*
 - b. *Loading docks and circulation, including ingress and egress into the Business Park property, shall not be provided from or located adjacent to Newton Street.*
 - c. *Lighting fixtures shall be selected and designed to minimize glare and excess lighting spillage into the SPA. All street and parking lights shall utilize cut-off fixtures to minimize visibility from adjacent areas of the community. Lighting shall not be blinking, flashing, or be of unusual intensity or brightness.*
 - d. *Buildings shall be designed at heights and intensities that provide an appropriate level of compatibility to the SPA. Business Park development projects shall be subject to the requirements of the Design/ Site Review process.*

Policy 3.30 Compatibility of Residential Uses Adjacent to Commercial and Employment Uses.

The design and land use pattern of Placer Vineyards shall be organized to provide an appropriate level of compatibility between residential neighborhoods and adjoining commercial and higher intensity office uses.

1. Residential densities in Placer Vineyards should create a transition between commercial and office uses and adjoining low density residential neighborhoods. Transitional uses may include higher density residential uses, public and quasi-public uses, open spaces, and parks.
2. Local streets will avoid direct connections between large commercial centers and surrounding residential areas that could allow commercial traffic to pass through the residential neighborhoods and affect local streets with commercial parking.
3. Open space setbacks, parks, and surface drainage swales are appropriate buffers between residential uses and adjoining higher intensity commercial and office uses.
4. Site design of residential neighborhoods can employ a number of techniques as a buffer to adjoining uses, as indicated in Figure 6.18, "Lotting Conditions Adjacent to Major Roadways," in Chapter VI, "Community Design." Such techniques include larger setbacks, loop roads, cul-de-sacs, frontage roads, single loaded streets, open space, and landscaped buffers.

Figure 3.4 Buffer for Business Park Development on Newton St.



LAND USE

Figure 3.5 Map of Williamson Act Parcels



CHAPTER IV: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES



4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE CONCEPTS

Context

This chapter identifies the environmental conditions and sensitive resources found in the Plan Area. Goals and policies contained in this Specific Plan shall guide the conservation, protection, or mitigation of existing environmental conditions and sensitive resources. This chapter addresses seven key areas: wetland resources, special-status species, oak and riparian woodlands, water quality and conservation, energy conservation, air quality, and noise.

The existing environmental conditions present in the Plan Area were taken into account during development of the Land Use Plan. The Land Use Plan is designed to protect significant, sensitive resources in open space and to minimize the impacts of urban development on the existing and natural communities in the Plan Area, to the extent feasible. This Specific Plan, however, recognizes and provides off-site mitigation of environmental resources. Through this approach of on- and off-site environmental mitigation, the potential to protect large areas of significant open space is maximized.

Blueprint Plan Implementation

The SACOG Blueprint document encourages the following actions regarding environmental resources:

- ◆ Incorporation of generous amounts of public-use open space (such as parks, town squares, trails, and greenbelts) within development projects;
- ◆ Preservation of wildlife and plant habitats;
- ◆ Preservation of valuable agricultural resources;
- ◆ Promotion of environmentally friendly practices such as energy-efficient design, water conservation, and stormwater management; and
- ◆ Provision of shade trees to reduce the ground temperature in the summer.

In addition to the conservation of natural resources and protection of plant and wildlife species, the purpose of these actions is to create areas of open space that improve the overall quality of the environment.

The Specific Plan addresses the SACOG action items. Preservation of open space and wildlife and plant habitat is facilitated in natural areas that surround preserved natural resources as well as in traditional parks and town greens. Specific Plan policies encourage energy-efficient design and provide for stormwater quality management and groundwater

recharge. Shade tree species have been selected for major streets, within the parks, and minimum parking lot shading standards have been set to reduce local heat loads and minimize impacts to air quality. Lands taken from potential agricultural production will be offset with other lands of similarly capable soils designated for agricultural/ open space use on the County General Plan. Policies also address the protection of sensitive land uses from excessive noise levels.



Placer County Conservation Plan

Placer County is currently preparing a Natural Community Conservation Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan to address the conservation of natural communities, endangered species, and other less sensitive species of native wildlife. At the same time the County is pursuing a California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Master Streambed Alteration Agreement and Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification. Collectively, these activities have been termed the Placer County Conservation Plan (PCCP). The County is also in the process of applying for a Clean Water Act Section 404 Programmatic General Permit through a County Aquatic Resource Permit (CARP).

The purpose of the PCCP will be to encourage and simplify the process of conserving sensitive habitats for special-status species. The Placer County General Plan and the PCCP will set the minimum mitigation ratios needed for the off-site mitigation component of the eventual federal, state, and local mitigation package. All projects designed during the preparation of the current first phase of preparation of the PCCP are to be consistent with the principles and objectives of the conservation process. Because activities related to implementation of the Specific Plan may commence before the approval of Phase 1 of the PCCP, this Specific Plan and the mitigation measures included in the project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) are designed to be implemented before approval of the PCCP.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Placer Vineyards Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

The property owners within the Plan Area have developed a strategy and program designed to reduce the impacts of the Specific Plan on open space and biological and agricultural resources. The intent of this mitigation strategy is to provide a single, all-inclusive mitigation measure designed to simultaneously address possible impacts on all biological resources of concern, while also addressing potential impacts on open space and agricultural lands. The goal in devising this strategy is to formulate a biological protection, preservation, and mitigation program that includes measures likely to find their way into the PCCP, while also mitigating impacts to open space and agricultural lands. The mitigation strategy is formulated to simultaneously satisfy the requirements of CEQA, the Placer County General Plan, and other federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and policies that affect open space, agricultural lands, and biological resources. The program also seeks to strike a reasonable balance between on-site resource avoidance and off-site preservation and restoration.

To address the need for replacement habitat, agriculture, and open space areas, 6 potential off-site mitigation sites have been identified for the project. Placer Vineyards property owners may either choose to acquire land located in the 6 mitigation sites, or alternate mitigation sites may be acquired that would achieve comparable mitigation ratios. All off-site mitigation must be in accordance with the terms of the PCCP, once it is approved, or as permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and DFG.

The property owners' proposal also requires that a combination of one or more mitigation sites establish a core preserve area of approximately 1,000 acres set aside and protected by permanent conservation easement before the initiation of any ground-disturbing activities. The remaining mitigation requirements, beyond the 1,000 acres of open space required to be set aside, are to be addressed on an incremental basis as the development of individual projects proceed. At the time of establishment of the preserves, at the time of additions to preserves, and/or at the time of incremental additions to the geographic scope of a preserve, a management plan for the operation of the preserve lands must be approved by the County.

Mitigation areas may be discontinuous with one another as a result of land additions to preserve holdings so long as the land holdings meet the minimum acreage and location requirements of mitigation measure 4.4-1 in the Specific Plan EIR. Those requirements include a minimum area of 200 acres and location within the General Plan's Agricultural and Open Space categories. Subsequent Specific Plan projects shall mitigate (for agriculture, wetlands, and/or habitat) through the establishment of preserve areas that, to the extent feasible, are located adjacent to the core preserve or other existing preserve sites.

Goal 4.1 Establish a comprehensive approach for the replacement of affected open space and agricultural and habitat areas.

Policy 4.1 *Open Space Mitigation and Management Plans.*
One acre of open space will be preserved within Placer County for each acre of open space affected within the Specific Plan area. The process through which this will be accomplished will be the approval and implementation of a series of Open Space Mitigation and Management Plans that address the management of a specific property to be preserved for mitigation of lost open space, agricultural land, and habitat. An Open Space Mitigation and Management Plan will be required for each individual development project or grouping of projects within the Specific Plan area.

4.2 WETLAND RESOURCES

Wetland resources include various types of water features such as creeks, drainage basins, lakes, ponds, marshes, and seasonal wetlands. Wetlands can also be perennial and seasonal water features. Wetlands are an important part of the environmental condition because wetlands support a variety of sensitive wildlife and plant species.

Two broad categories of wetlands are identified in the Plan Area: Depressional wetlands and Riverine wetlands. Depressional wetlands include vernal pools, seasonal wetlands, seasonal marshes, seasonal drainage, and ponds. Riverine wetlands include a perennial drainage (Dry Creek) and ephemeral/intermittent drainage.

Other waters also located in the Plan Area are stock ponds, channels, and ditches. Refer to Figure 4.1 for an illustration of the location and extent of existing wetlands. See the Placer Vineyards EIR for a more detailed description and representation of the existing wetlands. Additional detailed analysis will be required for individual project sites with the submittal of development proposals.

4.2.1 WETLAND TYPES

Descriptions of wetlands found in the Plan Area are provided below.

Depressional Wetlands

Vernal Pools:

Vernal pools are shallow depressions with an underlying hardpan layer that causes them to inundate. Vernal pools typically support plant species found in the Sacramento Valley.

Seasonal Wetland:

Seasonally inundated basins are scattered throughout the Plan Area. These areas may be categorized as seasonal wetlands depending on their floristic composition and hydrology. Seasonal wetlands can be found within swales, drainages, or depressions and typically support wetland plants, including grasses, native plants, and nonnative forbs.

Seasonal Marsh:

Seasonal marshes occur when water remains in an intermittent drainage long enough that marsh vegetation becomes established. Riparian habitat occurs along the southeastern edge of the project adjacent to Dry Creek.

Seasonal Drainage:

Seasonal drainage conveys water during the rainy season and becomes dry during the remainder of the year. Seasonal drainage is typically inundated during storm events and remains saturated into the vegetation growing season.

Ponds:

Several large hydrologic features are present in the Plan Area, consisting of bermed swales, natural basins, and artificial, excavated stock ponds. Ponds support little, or a fringe of, perennial vegetation, dominated by cattail, tule, and common rush.

Riverine Wetlands

Perennial Drainage:

Dry Creek runs along the Plan Area's southeastern boundary and has water flowing year round. Vegetation such as Goodding's Willow, Fremont's cottonwood, Valley Oak, and herbaceous species grow along the banks of Dry Creek.

Ephemeral/Intermittent Drainage:

Two types of ephemeral drainage features are found in the Plan Area: intermittent drainage and drainage swales. Intermittent drainages can be several feet wide and are typically devoid of vegetation because of fast-moving water. Drainage swales are hydrologic linear features and have floristic characteristics similar to seasonal wetlands, including non-native grasses and forbs.

4.2.2 WETLANDS AVOIDANCE AND PRESERVATION

One of the first steps in designing the Land Use Diagram was to identify existing environmentally sensitive areas, including wetlands. Responding to the mapping of sensitive areas, the Land Use Diagram designates sites along natural drainage corridors as open space areas, including wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas.

The intent of this approach is to preserve the highest quality and most contiguous wetlands within open space areas and at sites along natural drainage corridors. Long-term wetland preservation may also better be achieved in large off-site preserves, which avoid the urban edge effects associated with preserved wetlands in the midst of an urban area.

The final design of wetland corridors and open space areas will be determined during site-specific development proposals and associated site-specific wetland delineations. Although not reflected within the Land Use Diagram, it is anticipated that lands containing off-site wetlands and open space will also be preserved in perpetuity as an element of plan implementation.

Goal 4.2 Avoid and minimize adverse impacts on wetlands to the extent feasible.

Policy 4.2 *Individual development projects shall, to the extent feasible, develop plans that will preserve and protect existing wetland areas.*

Goal 4.3 Develop a plan for mitigation of disturbance of on-site wetlands.

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- Policy 4.3** *Where wetland avoidance is not feasible, a wetland mitigation plan will be developed before site disturbance to mitigate all wetland impacts. Mitigation plans will be prepared in accordance with all state and federal regulations and in conjunction with the request for permits from regulatory agencies.*
- Policy 4.4** *Wetland feasibility studies will be prepared to ensure successful establishment of the compensation wetlands in conjunction with the request for permits from regulatory agencies.*
- Policy 4.5** *Compensation wetlands will be constructed within designated open space areas of the Plan Area, or wetland mitigation credits will be purchased from the USFWS approved mitigation bank, or land at an off-site location will be purchased to preserve and or construct mitigation wetlands, or a combination of these alternatives will be implemented.*
- Goal 4.4** Establish a maintenance and monitoring program to ensure that wetland compensation areas are protected and mitigation measures are successful.
- Policy 4.6** *Maintenance and monitoring of wetland compensation areas will be conducted in accordance with requirements of USACE and pursuant to the issuance of a Section 404 permit.*
- Policy 4.7** *Maintenance of wetland compensation areas will be the responsibility of a County Service Agency (CSA) or other funding mechanism satisfactory to USACE and Placer County.*
- Policy 4.8** *Monitoring of the efficacy of the mitigation program will comply with federal agency requirements and the California Clean Water Act and DFG Code, Streambed Alteration Agreements, and all DFG provisions.*
- Policy 4.9** *Maintenance and monitoring programs will be required for compensation wetlands purchased in mitigation banks.*
- Goal 4.5** Provide development plan features that will ensure the long-term health of wetland areas.
- Policy 4.10** *Only passive recreation activities compatible with natural communities will be allowed in wetland preserve areas.*
- Policy 4.11** *Hunting, dumping, operation of motorcycles, or any other activities that could be detrimental to the wetland ecosystems are strictly prohibited.*

Figure 4.1 Wetland Diagram



* Note: Refer to wetland study by ECORP for further delineation of wetland areas.

Source: ECORP 2005

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4.3 SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES

The Plan Area incorporates habitat that support special-status species. The Land Use Plan designed for the Plan Area attempts to avoid potential development impacts on sensitive species by preserving habitat areas, where feasible. Site-specific biological surveys, conducted as part of individual project proposals, will verify existing habitat and species types.

4.3.1 SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES HABITAT AVOIDANCE

Existing environmentally sensitive areas were identified during the design of the Land Use Plan for the Plan Area. As a result, the Land Use Plan designates numerous open space areas and sites around environmentally sensitive areas.

The overall intent of this approach is to preserve existing on-site sensitive habitat areas, to the extent feasible. However, impacts of development on existing sensitive habitats may be unavoidable, in which case off-site mitigation lands will be provided. The final configuration and design of open space areas to preserve sensitive habitats and the extent of off-site mitigation measures will be determined during site-specific development proposals and associated site-specific biological surveys.

Goal 4.6 Identify potential special-status species habitat areas and mitigate impacts on these areas.

Policy 4.12 *Biological surveys will be conducted to identify potentially occurring special-status species before disturbance of habitat areas and in conjunction with requests for permits from regulatory agencies.*

Policy 4.13 *Where special-status species habitats are indicated, project-specific mitigation measures will be developed in consultation with Placer County, DFG, and/or USFWS.*

Policy 4.14 *Where state or federally listed special-status species may be adversely affected, required consultation will be conducted and/or appropriate permits obtained before disturbance of habitat areas.*

4.4 OAK AND RIPARIAN WOODLANDS

The Plan Area historically involved grazing and dry land farming. Two large stands of valley oaks still remain in the east and central portions of the Plan Area. Oak trees grow along Dyer Lane and riparian woodlands are found along Dry Creek. The Land Use Plan for the Plan Area designates open space uses to preserve the oaks and riparian woodlands.

4.4.1 TREE PRESERVATION

All oaks and riparian woodlands located in the Plan Area are subject to the Placer County Tree Preservation Ordinance and the policies of this Specific Plan. Measures provided in this Specific Plan apply to both private developments and public projects.

Goal 4.7 Preserve oak trees and riparian woodlands.

Policy 4.15 *Oaks and other native trees with trunk diameters of 6 inches or greater, measured at breast height, will be preserved wherever feasible.*

Policy 4.16 *Location and preservation of oaks and other native trees will be indicated on site-specific, tentative maps.*

Policy 4.17 *Mitigation for trees removed from existing riparian or improved drainage corridors will be accomplished according to the following procedures:*

- ♦ *For each riparian tree removed, one 15-gallon tree, one 2-inch by 10-inch tube container (Deepot 40) seedling for each inch of diameter of the removed tree, and three 1-gallon shrubs will be planted in the riparian or improved drainage corridors.*
- ♦ *For each oak tree greater than 6 inches diameter at breast height that is removed, one 15-gallon tree, one 2-inch by 10-inch tube container (Deepot 40) seedling for each inch of diameter of the removed tree, and three 1-gallon shrubs will be planted.*

Policy 4.18 *Site-specific design and tree preservation, removal, and mitigation will be identified on an individual project basis and shall conform to the requirements developed in the Open Space Mitigation and Management Plan.*

Policy 4.19 *During construction, brightly colored, temporary plastic fencing that is at least 4 feet tall will be erected 1 foot outside the outermost edge of the tree's dripline or around the combined dripline of groves or lines of trees for protection. Signs will be erected in accordance with the Placer County Tree Preservation Ordinance.*

Policy 4.20 *Soil disruptions within driplines of existing oaks and other native trees identified for preservation will be avoided where feasible. Paving shall not be placed in the driplines of trees to be preserved.*

Policy 4.21 Grading and landscaping will be designed to prevent overspray or runoff within tree driplines.

Policy 4.22 *Irrigation will not occur within the driplines of indigenous oaks, except as prescribed by the project arborist or landscape architect.*

Policy 4.23 *Plantings within driplines of indigenous oaks will be limited to species that require no irrigation and are tolerant of the natural semiarid habitat of the oaks.*

4.5 WATER QUALITY AND CONSERVATION

Development within the Plan Area could potentially have adverse impacts on water quality, including short-term impacts from construction activities and long-term impacts from urban runoff. The Specific Plan minimizes potential water quality impacts through the preservation of existing drainage ways and establishing specific locations for detention and water quality basins and best management practices (BMPs) to contain, retain, and filter storm water runoff.

Goal 4.8 Reduce water quality impacts within the Plan Area to the maximum extent practicable.

Goal 4.9 Site-specific development projects should incorporate low-impact development design principles into the site layout.

Policy 4.24 *Storm water Quality Improvements.*

Storm water management improvements disbursed through the Plan Area provide treatment to runoff before it enters the natural drainage conveyance systems in open space areas. In addition, by integrating the storm water management system throughout the Plan Area, individual parcels can provide specific storm water management elements that respond to the particular site conditions. This will promote the removal of various potential pollutants from each parcel before they are discharged into the drainage system. The following standards will apply to development projects.

1. *During construction, BMPs shall be provided to stabilize soils in place and minimize the amount of sediment entering the storm drain system and drainageways. BMPs shall generally consist of a combination of the following measures: minimizing soil disturbance, hydroseeding, fiber rolls, inlet protection, and stabilized construction access.*

2. *After construction, regional water quality facilities identified in the Master Project Drainage Report shall be constructed concurrently with the backbone drainage infrastructure for permanent water quality treatment.*

3. *Development projects shall provide on-site, site-specific post-construction water quality treatment facilities to capture and remove the pollutants before they are discharged from the site. Water quality treatment facilities shall generally consist of a combination of the following measures: vegetated swales, infiltration trenches/basins, filter strips, sand/oil separators, trench drains, and porous pavement.*

Policy 4.25 *Low-Impact Development Design.*

To the extent feasible, site-specific development projects shall incorporate low-impact development design strategies that may include:

1. *Minimizing and reducing impervious surfaces of site development (eg., roadways, sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, and rooftops);*
2. *Breaking up large areas of impervious surface and directing flows from these areas to stabilized vegetated areas; and*

4.5.1 GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

Groundwater supplies are recharged by rainwater that percolates through to the saturated zone of the soil. The principal means of groundwater recharge in the Sacramento Valley is accomplished within the streambeds that cross the valley. The rate and quality of rainwater reaching the saturation zone depends on a number of factors, such as the amount and duration of precipitation, soil type, moisture content of the soil, and vertical permeability of the unsaturated zone. Urban land uses also affect groundwater recharge by reducing the amount of permeable surface, which limits the amount of rainwater able to percolate into the soil. In addition, groundwater levels can be affected by pumping for agriculture and urban uses.

The entirety of the creek system will remain in place and will continue to serve as the principal means of groundwater recharge in this area. The land use design prepared for the Plan Area aims to reduce the effects of urbanization on groundwater recharge by designating 709 acres (13.6% of the Plan Area) as open space and preserving existing drainage ways.

Goal 4.10 Conserve and preserve water quality within the Placer Vineyards Plan Area.

Policy 4.26 *Site grading will be undertaken and controlled so that sediment runoff is minimized. In locations approved by the County, detention basins may be located in open space areas so as to minimize increases in peak flows from the*

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site. The basins may facilitate groundwater recharge, but to a limited degree because of the predominance of clay soils in the area. To minimize runoff, paved parking areas will be designed to provide the minimum amount of paving area necessary to meet required parking and circulation standards. The following standards apply to site-specific development projects.

1. Storm water management plans will be prepared that comply with all standards and requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and the grading, erosion, and improvement standards in the Placer County Storm water Management Plan.
2. Grading plans submitted for Placer County review and approval will contain an erosion and sediment control plan that includes erosion control measures to protect waterways from erosion and debris during and after construction activities.
3. Grading plans will be designed to minimize run-off and the area of disturbance during construction.
4. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and implemented for site-specific projects.
5. Concurrent with construction of site improvements, storm water BMPs will be constructed and maintained in accordance with the SWPPP as approved by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.
6. Drainage reports will be prepared for site-specific projects and shall comply with the Placer County Storm Water Management Manual, Land Development Manual, and Placer Vineyards Master Project Drainage Report.

Policy 4.27 Impacts on Streams and Riparian Areas.

Impacts on Curry Creek and Dry Creek shall be avoided through the conveyance of open space buffers and the location of adjacent land uses. A 100-foot setback shall be provided for perennial streams (Curry Creek). The majority of the active floodplain of Dry Creek lies on the opposite bank and not within the reach of Dry Creek adjacent to the Plan Area. Adequate open space protection has been designated in the Specific Plan to mitigate impacts on Dry Creek. Implementation of the Specific Plan will also ensure that there would be no net loss of riparian habitat (see Policy 4.18).

Policy 4.28 Construction of stream crossings or other improvements in the Dry Creek and Curry Creek corridors will be kept to the absolute minimum necessary and will meet the following standards:

1. A Streambed Alteration Agreement will be obtained from the DFG before commencement of construction of stream crossings.
2. Areas adjacent to finished improvements in Curry Creek and Dry Creek that are disturbed during construction activities will be hydroseeded and revegetated.
3. Disturbed areas in Curry Creek and Dry Creek not actively being developed will be planted, mulched, or otherwise protected by an acceptable means for the duration of the winter.
4. Construction activities will not be permitted within Curry Creek or Dry Creek that would result in disturbed areas being left unprotected between October 15 and March 15.
5. Construction roads crossing creek systems will be used only when necessary and other access routes are not feasible.
6. Construction roads crossing creek systems will incorporate culverts if roads remain in place during the winter season.
7. Erosion control measures will be in place before the onset of the rainy season, but no later than October 15 during construction.
8. Permanent roadway stream crossings will be designed for a 100-year flood event.
9. Stream crossings will be designed with approaches as close to a right angle wherever feasible.
10. Stream crossings will be designed to reduce erosion and stream degradation by the placement of structures.
11. Rock energy dissipaters or other Placer County-approved methods will be used at outflow points of all culverts.

Policy 4.29 Developers shall provide a schedule of construction projects to Placer County. Placer County will provide inspection of construction sites to ensure that erosion control measures are operative through the winter period.

Policy 4.30 Maintenance access easements will be dedicated to Placer County on all portions of open space and stream corridors as identified on the tentative maps of development projects and approved by the County.

Policy 4.31 *Maintenance access easements will include areas required for preserving trees, special-status species habitat, and wetland resources.*

Policy 4.32 *Use of low-water-consumption plant materials and irrigation systems will be encouraged by Placer County and the following standards will be met and implemented by site-specific development projects.*

1. *Where available and feasible, recycled water will be used to irrigate all parks, schools, and public rights-of-way. Irrigation equipment shall be compatible with the use of reclaimed water.*
2. *Low-volume spray irrigation systems shall be utilized for turf and groundcover areas and drip irrigation systems for shrubs and trees.*
3. *Where recycled water is available, water-intensive landscaping may be used.*
4. *Landscaping in improved common areas will incorporate drought-resistant varieties where practical and consistent with Placer County design guidelines.*
5. *Landscaping within medians should be by subsurface drip irrigation systems.*

Policy 4.33 *Use of currently available water conservation devices will be encouraged by Placer County in all existing development. To accomplish this, Placer County will meter the use of potable water, and new construction must meet the following standards.*

1. *Water-conserving design and equipment will be required in all new construction.*
2. *Recycled water will be used for irrigation where feasible.*

4.6 SOILS

Soils in the Plan Area generally consist of clays, loams, and sandy loams. For additional information regarding soil types and characteristics within the Plan Area, refer to the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan EIR Appendix L.

Soils are categorized by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for their potential use as agricultural land. The California Department of Conservation (CDC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring program uses NRCS categories to prepare “Important Farmland Maps.” Most of the Plan Area, approximately 3,657 acres of farmland, are characterized as of “Local Importance” (3,401 acres) or “State-wide Importance” (256 acres) by the CDC. Specific Plan policies will preserve open space land elsewhere in Placer County to offset development of these lands.

Goal 4.11 Minimize impacts on important farmland through the dedication of other open space land.

Policy 4.34 *Require the preservation of other open space/agricultural lands elsewhere in Placer County at a ratio of 1 acre of land for each acre of land affected within the Plan Area.*

Policy 4.35 *No additional agricultural land dedications shall be required beyond the 1:1 open space dedication required under Policy 4.34 so long as a substantial portion, as determined by County staff, of the open space lands acquired are:*

1. *In agricultural production or have the potential to support agriculture;*
2. *Undeveloped and have an NRCS soils classification of the same or greater value than lands being impacted within the Specific Plan project; or*
3. *Undeveloped and have the same or higher value CDC categorization as lands being impacted within the Specific Plan project property at issue.*

In-kind mitigation is not required for agricultural land developed within the project area.

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4.7 ENERGY CONSERVATION

The Specific Plan's land use patterns and transportation systems are designed to encourage efficient energy use through nonmotorized transportation and the close proximity of residential uses to jobs and services.

Goal 4.12 Encourage efficient energy use and conservation.

Policy 4.36 *All residential units will be developed in compliance with State of California Title 24 energy conservation measures.*

Policy 4.37 *Use of passive and active solar devices such as solar collectors, solar cells, and solar heating systems, integrated into the building designs, are encouraged.*

Policy 4.38 *Building and site design should take into account the solar orientation of buildings during design and construction.*

4.8 AIR QUALITY

The Plan Area is located in the jurisdiction of the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (PCAPCD), which is the agency responsible for monitoring and regulating air pollutant emissions from stationary, mobile, and indirect sources within Placer County. Development within the Plan Area could affect air quality in Placer County and the greater Sacramento Valley. Air quality in the Sacramento Valley affects the quality of life for all residents living in the Sacramento region. The primary factors contributing to air quality in the vicinity of the Plan Area include:

- ♦ Climatic variances, temperature inversions, and low wind speeds;
- ♦ Vehicle emissions; and
- ♦ Mobile and stationary pollutants generated by localized urban development.

Vehicle trips are a major contributor to air pollution, and the number of vehicle trips is affected by the spatial design of land uses and destinations within the community. The Specific Plan includes three major features that help reduce or minimize impacts on air quality.

First, the Plan Area includes three centralized mixed-use village cores that provide neighborhood commercial uses to encourage pedestrian/bicycle use between surrounding residential areas and the village core land uses.

Second, the Specific Plan improves the regional balance of housing and jobs. Housing opportunities made available closer to employment encourage fewer long-distance commutes, consistent with the objectives of the SACOG Blueprint Plan. To this end, SACOG has designated the Placer Vineyards Plan Area as a major regional development opportunity to improve the jobs/housing balance.

Third, the land use pattern and transportation system also facilitates the use of alternative transportation choices throughout the Plan Area. The plan provides for a future bus rapid transit route and transit node within the village center along Watt Avenue. The Plan also uses an extensive bike and pedestrian system along roadways and major open space corridors, linking residences to the bus rapid transit system, the village centers and town center, and public facilities. A street pattern of multiple and parallel routes between destinations minimizes traffic congestion and facilitates residents to combine vehicle trips into one route.

Goal 4.13 Minimize air quality impacts on the Placer Vineyards area and the region.

Policy 4.39 *Local area source emissions shall be minimized through a variety of strategies:*

1. *Promote low-emission energy use by requiring building design features that accommodate and encourage use of alternative energy sources.*
2. *Promote low-emission energy use by incorporating landscaping conducive to passive solar energy uses:*
 - a. *Buildings that are oriented in a south-to-southwest direction, where feasible;*
 - b. *Deciduous trees that are planted on the west and south sides of structures;*
 - c. *Landscapes with drought-resistant species and groundcovers rather than pavement to reduce heat reflection; and*
 - d. *Maximum parking lot shading at all non-residential developments (see Policy 6.25, "Parking Lot Shading").*

Policy 4.40 *Provide, on a project-specific basis, adequate buffers designed to separate emission and nuisance sources from residential uses, consistent with the Placer County General Plan.*

Policy 4.41 *Construction activities will comply with all requirements of grading permits and PCAPCD.*

Policy 4.42 *PCAPCD may replace or supplement air pollution control measures for individual projects as new technology and feasible measures become available over the course of the Plan buildout.*

4.9 VECTOR CONTROL AND MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

The purpose of this section is to provide guidelines that prevent new mosquito breeding sources and to apply the necessary measures that support the agencies involved in the surveillance, management, and elimination of mosquito breeding sources. Vector sources such as creeks, wetlands, vernal pools, and other naturally occurring habitat along with artificial sources—agricultural, industrial, and residential sources—will be routinely checked and monitored for mosquito production.

Goal 4.14 Protect public health and safety by preventing the creation of mosquito breeding areas through proper drainage and routine surveillance of standing water sources for mosquito production.

Policy 4.43 *Grading shall be performed in a manner to prevent the occurrence of standing water or other areas suitable for the breeding of mosquitoes or other vectors. Water detention and related surface water conveyance features shall also be designed to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.*

Policy 4.44 *The Placer Mosquito Abatement District shall be granted access in perpetuity to perform vector control in all common areas, including drainage, open space corridors, and park areas. Such access shall be a condition of approval of all tentative maps approved within the Plan Area.*

4.10 NOISE

A major source of noise affecting the Plan Area is vehicular traffic along arterial roadways. Other local roadways also contribute to noise in the environment. The Specific Plan will allow for development of residential uses (which are considered to be noise-sensitive users) adjacent to highly traveled roadways. As development of residential land uses occurs in the Plan Area, individual projects will be analyzed for potential noise impacts.

In most cases the edge treatments and orientation of buildings along arterial streets will reduce outdoor noise levels to an acceptable level (60 decibel day-night average noise level, community noise equivalent level [60 dB DNL] or less). In those instances where the noise level is in excess of the 60 dB DNL standards, design practices shall be implemented to reduce noise levels in outdoor use areas to less than 60 dB DNL.

To reduce noise levels, sound walls, berms, and other devices need to be constructed to buffer noise created by vehicles on adjacent residential land uses. However, the Placer County General Plan discourages the use of sound walls for noise mitigation. The General Plan encourages the use of setbacks, building orientation, and other alternatives to sound walls. The General Plan further provides that, where noise mitigation measures

are required to achieve adopted standards, the emphasis shall be placed upon site planning and project design. The use of noise barriers shall be considered only after all other practical design-related noise mitigation measures have been integrated into the project. The policies of this chapter and of Chapter V, “Transportation and Circulation,” and Chapter VI, “Community Design,” of this Specific Plan provide the means and methods to satisfy these General Plan requirements.

Goal 4.15 Minimize noise impacts on residential land uses.

Policy 4.45 *Edge treatments and building orientations along arterial streets will reduce outdoor noise levels to 60 dB DNL or less for residential uses and 70 dB DNL for commercial uses such as offices. In those instances where the noise level is in excess of the standard, design practices shall be implemented to reduce noise levels in outdoor use areas.*

1. *Future residential or sensitive development along arterials and collectors shall not exceed County noise standards. Creative site planning shall be the primary means to achieve a 60 dB DNL noise level at the outdoor use area (i.e., side and rear yards, patios, balconies, decks, or enclosed courtyards). When necessary, building facades and noise barriers may be placed between the arterial roadway and the outdoor use areas (see Policy 6.44, “Edge Treatments for Use in Low- and Medium-Density Residential Area.”)*
2. *Commercial uses along Baseline Road and Watt Avenue and some residential uses along interior arterial streets, may be exposed to excessive noise levels. Where it is not possible to reduce noise in outdoor activity areas to 60 dB DNL or less in residential developments using a practical application of the best available noise reduction measures, an exterior noise level of up to 65 dB DNL may be allowed, provided that available noise level reductions have been implemented and interior noise levels are not in excess of 45 dB DNL. Acoustical analyses shall be prepared for all uses exposed to levels in excess of “normally acceptable” noise levels to show how both the outdoor uses areas and indoor noise thresholds shall be met in these locations.*
3. *All residences, hotels, motels, churches, nursing homes, and theaters uses exposed to a noise level in excess of 60 dB DNL will require sound-rated windows, added wall insulation, and mechanical ventilation capable of achieving the indoor noise requirements of 45 dB DNL, as determined by an acoustical analysis.*
4. *To determine compliance with noise standards, site specific acoustical analyses shall be required as a part of the Subsequent Conformity Review process, during the submittal of tentative subdivision designs and grading maps. Acoustical analyses shall be used to determine appropriate noise attenuation*

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measures (i.e. setbacks, berms, building orientation, noise walls and other noise mitigation measures within the Placer County General Plan Noise Element and the design guidelines found under Section 6.4.3 “Walls, Fences, and Screening” of this Specific Plan) required to reduce traffic noise to levels that meet County noise level standards.

5. *“The Landscape Master Plan” that will be subsequently prepared for the project shall include the design of noise attenuating features within the landscape setbacks and landscape corridor lots in the Plan Area, especially along Baseline Road, Watt Avenue, and Dyer Lane, where the greatest noise impacts are anticipated to occur.*

Policy 4.46 *Impacts of noise-generating uses will be minimized. Noise attenuation strategies shall be incorporated into all potential noise generating uses, and may include the following:*

1. *Outdoor use spaces shall be located behind buildings so that the building mass shields noise-sensitive uses from the noise sources.*
2. *Noise barriers shall be constructed between commercial uses and residences.*
3. *Limitations on hours of operation, maximum sound levels, and types of uses may be placed on the proposed uses of amplified sound at schools, parks, bars, restaurants, clubs, and other events.*
4. *Mechanical equipment noise at commercial and residential areas must be controlled. Methods may include quiet equipment, sound-attenuating enclosures, and noise barriers.*
5. *Full disclosure shall be required for all residential uses that are adjacent to, or directly across from schools, houses of worship, neighborhood parks, playgrounds, nightclubs, bars, and restaurants with live music and entertainment venues. The disclosure should state the typical hours of operation and noises associated with the use.*
6. *Additional acoustical analysis may be required for specific noise-generating activities that have the potential to adversely affect adjacent residences or other noise-sensitive uses (eg., hospitals, retirement homes, day-care centers, and schools) The analysis should identify the potential noise level and the means by which outdoor and indoor noise levels can be controlled to achieve the acceptable standards under the County Noise Ordinance.*

Policy 4.47 *Construction noise shall be controlled to meet applicable County codes and minimize annoyances on surrounding land uses. Construction noise abatement is critical in later phases of Placer Vineyards development when portions of residential neighborhoods are already in place. Mitigation measures to reduce constructing noise impacts may include the following:*

1. *Construction noise emanating from any construction activities for which a grading and building permit is required is prohibited on Sundays and federal holidays and shall only occur:*
 - a. *Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. (during Daylight Savings Time);*
 - b. *Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. (during Standard Time); and*
 - c. *Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.*
2. *Truck traffic shall be routed through less noise-sensitive areas.*

CHAPTER V: TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION



5.1 TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION CONCEPTS

Context

This chapter sets forth the policies for the transportation and circulation systems within the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan Area (Plan Area) with the goal of providing a variety of circulation choices in a safe and efficient manner. Placer Vineyards has been designed to accommodate a diverse range of transportation modes—roadways, street corridors, and open space trails—for automobiles, emergency vehicles, buses, and other transit services, and bikeways and paths that accommodate pedestrians, bikers, and equestrians.

Roadway layouts for the Plan Area and their cross section designs are also presented in this chapter. A summary of projected roadway volumes of streets affected by the project and their level of service conditions at major intersections is analyzed in Section 4.7, “Transportation,” in the Placer Vineyards EIR. The proposed intersection designs for Placer Vineyard’s roadways are provided in Appendix C of this document. Pedestrian and bike circulation policies and development standards for travel via on- and off-street trails and their corresponding cross sections are also contained in this chapter. For streetscape corridor and landscape design guidelines, refer to Chapter VI, “Community Design.”

Blueprint Plan Implementation

Among the most important of the SACOG Blueprint plan principles is the provision of transportation choices. The SACOG principles point out that developments, including communities such as Placer Vineyards, should be designed to encourage people to sometimes walk, ride bicycles, ride the bus, ride light rail, take the train, or carpool. The SACOG Blueprint growth concepts for land use design are meant to encourage the use of these modes of travel thus reducing the number and length of auto trips.

This Specific Plan addresses all the elements of the SACOG transportation principles. Residential design policies encourage frequent interconnections between developments. A grid of streets distributes traffic throughout the Plan Area, to minimize congestion on the main thoroughfares, arterials and major streets. Plan densities are higher than those currently achieved locally. This will place residents closer to their places for shopping and to transit opportunities. A system of pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian trails will offer other transportation opportunities. The rights-of-way for local streets have been reduced in scale and Town Center parking requirements allow parking facilities to be shared. The Watt Avenue right-of-way have been sized to include regional transit right-of-way and along Town Center Drive, right-of-way has been reserved for a local Placer Vineyards streetcar.

5.2 EXISTING TRANSPORTATION CONTEXT

Regional Highways and Roadways

3 major regional highways and 2 main arterial roadways provide access into the Plan Area as indicated in Figure 5.1.

Major regional highways include State Routes (SRs) 99 and 65 and Interstate 80 (I-80). The thoroughfare streets (identified as major arterial streets in the Placer County General Plan) include Base Line Road, which connects to Sutter County and the City of Roseville and Watt Avenue, which connects south to Sacramento County.

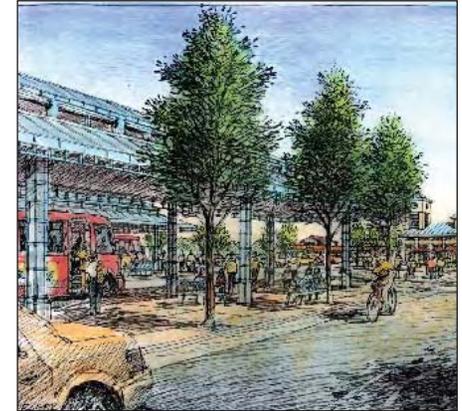
Located approximately 4 miles west of the Plan Area, SR 99, a 4-lane highway that runs north-south from the Central Valley (i.e., Chico and Bakersfield) into Sutter County. SR 99 is heavily traveled by trucks between these destinations.

4 miles east of the Plan Area is I-80, an 8-lane freeway that extends from the San Francisco Bay Area to Nevada and on to the East Coast. I-80 is the primary east-west freeway running through the Sacramento Valley region. SR 99 and I-80 both provide access south to downtown Sacramento, a regional employment center for area residents.

SR 65, generally a north-south road, is located about 5 miles northeast of the Plan Area and provides access from I-80 to SR 70. The highway begins as a 4-lane road in Rocklin and narrows to 2 lanes just north of Twelve Bridges Drive in Lincoln.

Base Line Road is a thoroughfare street running east-west on the northern border of the Plan Area connecting SR 99 and I-80. Base Line Road originates in Roseville as a commercial main street, becomes Riego Road as it crosses into Sutter County, and intersects with SR 99.

Watt Avenue is a thoroughfare street running north-south through the Plan Area. Watt Avenue terminates at Base Line Road on the northern border of the Plan Area, extends south into Sacramento County, and provides access to I-80.



TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

Local Roadways

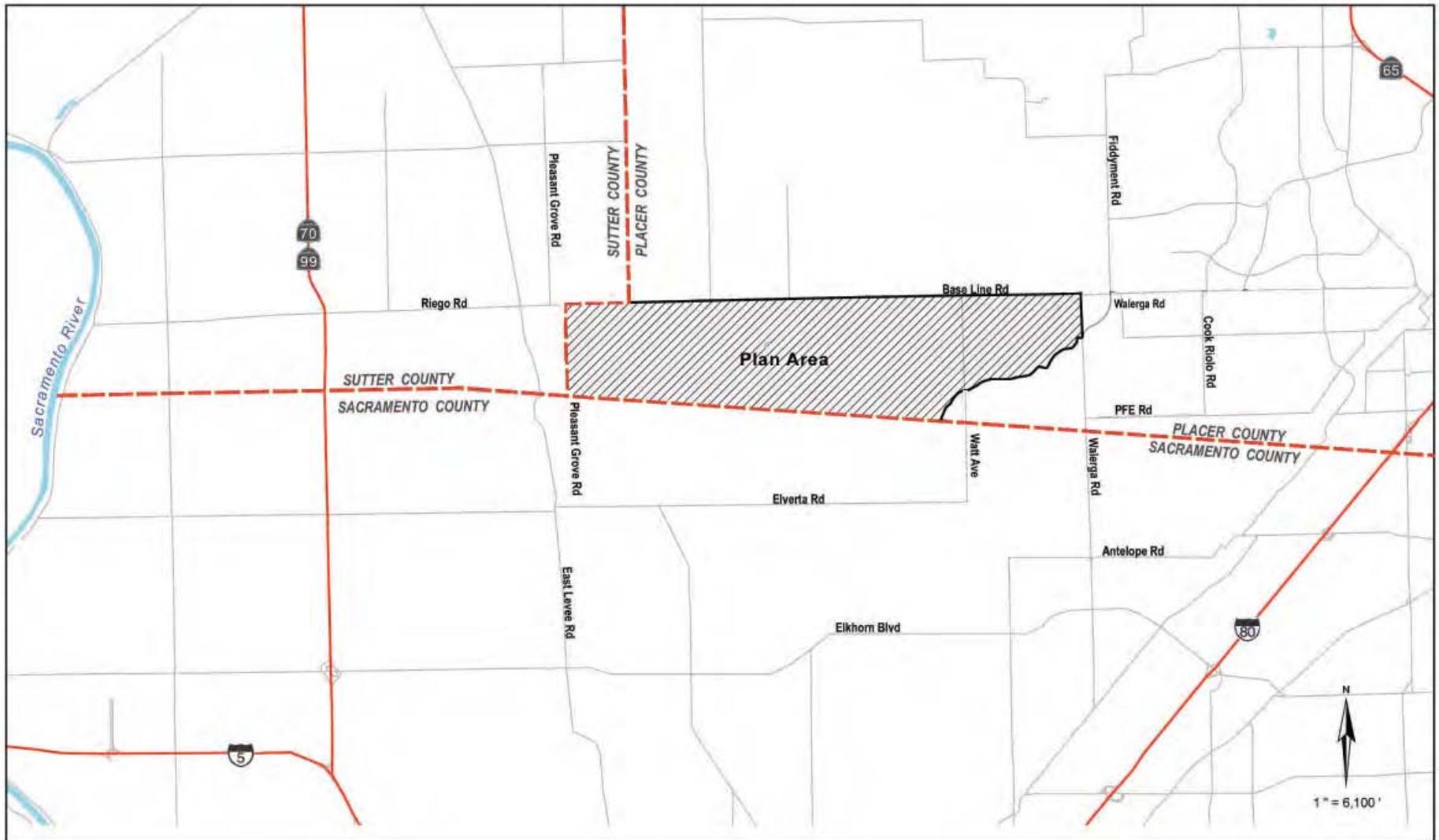
Local roadways providing access in and around the Plan Area include Fiddymment Road and Walerga Road.

Fiddymment Road is a 2-lane undivided rural roadway that runs north from Base Line Road to Moore Road. It is the primary access road serving the surrounding residential developments.

Walerga Road is a 2-lane undivided rural roadway that extends from Roseville Road in Sacramento County and terminates at Base Line Road. Walerga Road provides access between the Antelope area and Roseville.

Several minor rural roadways also provide access to the Plan Area. Locust and Pleasant Grove Roads are 2-lane rural roadways of varying width and shoulder distances. They provide access within the Plan Area from Elverta Road to the south in Sacramento County up to Base Line Road. Palladay Road, Tanwood Road, Dyer Lane, and Colburn Street are minor rural roads that currently provide private access to properties within the Plan Area.

Figure 5.1 Local and Regional Roadways



5.3 TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION ANALYSIS

Placer County’s traffic model was used to determine the ability of the proposed circulation system to accommodate the anticipated traffic from the Plan Area. This model includes anticipated build-out of the Specific Plan plus development outside of the Plan Area.

Goal 5.1 Create and maintain a balanced, multi-modal transportation system that provides for the efficient and safe movement of people, goods, and services.

Policy 5.1 *Level of Service Standards.*

Within the boundaries of the Specific Plan Area and on its boundaries, the Placer Vineyards roadway system will be developed and managed to accommodate a Level of Service (LOS) D. Outside the Specific Plan Area, roadways shall conform to General Plan Standards that require the County to develop and maintain a minimum LOS “C” for rural and urban/suburban roadways, except within 1/2 mile of state highways where the standard shall be LOS “D,” or as provided in Policy 5.2.

Policy 5.2 *Exceptions to General Plan Level of Service Standards. The County will allow exceptions to these LOS standards where it finds that the improvements or other measures required to achieve the LOS standards are unacceptable based on established criteria. In allowing any exception to the standards, the County shall consider the following factors:*

1. *The number of hours per day that the intersection or roadway segment would operate at conditions worse than the standard*
2. *The ability of the required improvement to significantly reduce peak hour delay and improve traffic operations*
3. *The right-of-way needs and the physical impacts on the surrounding properties*
4. *The visual aesthetics of the required improvement and its impact on community identity and characters*
5. *Environmental impacts, including air quality and noise impacts*
6. *Construction and right-of-way acquisition costs*
7. *The impacts on general safety*
8. *The impacts of the required construction phasing and traffic maintenance*

9. *The impacts on quality of life as perceived by residents*

10. *Consideration of other environmental, social, or economic factors on which the County may base findings to allow an exceedance of the standards*

Exceptions to the standards will be allowed only after all feasible measures and options are explored, including alternative forms of transportation.

5.3.1 PLAN AREA ROADWAY CIRCULATION

The new roadway circulation system for Placer Vineyards is based on a grid pattern of streets that organizes and provides access into the Plan Area. The Plan Area will be served by a network of public streets organized as a system of thoroughfares, arterials, major collectors, collectors, and local streets, as indicated in Figure 5.2.

Goal 5.2 Provide a complete network of transportation improvements including thoroughfares, arterials, collectors, and local roadways.

Goal 5.3 Locate roadways, wherever possible, adjacent to open space, public facilities, and multi-family residential and commercial uses to minimize the need for sound walls.

Goal 5.4 Minimize street widths, orient homes to front on low-volume collector streets, and provide landscape corridors that improve the streetscape environment.

Goal 5.5 Minimize traffic congestion in Placer Vineyards by discouraging regional thru-traffic on collector and local residential streets.

Policy 5.3 *Roadway System.*

The roadway system shall comply with Figure 5.2, the street sections in Figure 5.3, and the policies and design guidelines presented in this chapter and in Chapter VI, “Community Design.” Figure 5.2 is intended to be a guide to internal roadway traffic needs. As each area is developed, additional roundabouts or traffic signals may be added in the future, as determined necessary by the County, for traffic flow and traffic calming. Local streets providing property access are not indicated in Figure 5.2.

Policy 5.4 *Street Section Design.*

The project shall dedicate rights-of-way of sufficient width to accommodate all future anticipated lanes, including auxiliary lanes, and intersection widening for dual left-turn lanes and free right-turn lanes. Refer also to Chapter VI, “Community Design,” for more specific landscape and streetscape design guidelines and to Appendix C for traffic intersection designs.

1. *The landscape rights-of-way and parkways of all streets shall be dedicated at the same time as street rights-of-way.*
2. *The roadway measurements indicated in Figure 5.3 are measured to the back of the curb.*
3. *Thoroughfares: Base Line Road and Watt Avenue.*
The General Plan describes thoroughfares as major arterial streets designed to carry high volumes of thru-traffic with limited travel delay. Base Line Road and Watt Avenue shall be designed as thoroughfares with on-street bike lanes adjacent to 50-foot landscape corridors and meandering bike and pedestrian trails. They shall also include a 20-foot-wide landscape medians. Drive-through breaks shall be provided at intervals along the roadway with medians at a spacing to be determined by the Department of Public Works in consultation with the California Department of Forestry.

Base Line Road is projected to become 6 lanes divided by a raised median. Figure 5.3, Section A, illustrates the proposed street sections for Base Line Road. At ultimate build-out, Watt Avenue is anticipated to be 6 to 8 lanes with 2 lanes dedicated for bus rapid transit (BRT) right-of-way. Figure 5.3, Section B, illustrates the proposed initial phasing and ultimate build-out street sections for Watt Avenue with and without the BRT system.

Thoroughfares will provide limited access at the locations indicated in Figure 5.2. No new connections shall be allowed on thoroughfare roads in addition to those shown in Figure 5.2, unless it can be shown that the new connection will benefit overall traffic flows. Access points shall be coordinated with the County to prevent driveways with parking along thoroughfare streets.

4. *Arterials: Dyer Lane and 16th Street.*
Arterial streets are high-volume streets with limited, controlled intersections. Their proposed street sections are illustrated in Figure 5.3, Sections D and E. Local and collector streets feed arterial streets to provide linkages between neighborhoods and major retail and employment centers. Arterial streets shall be designed to be 4-lane divided streets with 14-foot medians, on-street bike lanes, and 35-foot landscape corridors with a separated, multi-use trail. Drive-through breaks shall be provided at intervals along the roadway with medians at a spacing to be determined by the Department of Public Works in consultation with the California Department of Forestry.

Arterials will provide limited access with minimum intersection spacing at approximately every 1/4 mile (1,200 feet). Right-in and right-out access points without median breaks may be provided spaced at a minimum of

600 feet. To the extent possible, the street alignment for Dyer Lane shall be designed to avoid removing and/or disturbing the existing oak trees on Dyer Lane.

5. *Major Collector Streets: Palladay Road, Tanwood Avenue, and 14th Street.*
Major collector streets carry moderate traffic volumes. Major collector street sections are illustrated in Figure 5.3, Section F. Major collector streets provide access to individual development areas, neighborhoods, schools, parks, and other community amenities. Major collector streets are generally characterized as 2-lane roadways with on-street bike lanes, parallel parking, and separated tree lined sidewalks. The minimum distance from intersections to driveways shall be 600 feet or a distance determined appropriate by the County for safe access and traffic flow.
6. *Collector Streets*
Collector streets carry light to moderate traffic volumes. Collector street sections are illustrated in Figure 5.3, Sections G, H, TC1, and TC2. Collector streets provide access to individual development areas, neighborhoods, schools, parks, and other community amenities. Collector streets are generally characterized as 2-lane roadways with on-street bike lanes, parallel parking, and separated tree-lined sidewalks. The minimum distance from intersections to driveways shall be 300 feet or a distance determined appropriate by the County for safe access and traffic flow.
7. *Commercial Streets*
Commercial streets serve parcels within the commercial, business park, power center, and town center areas. They typically do not include bike lanes. Standards for commercial streets not included in the town center are shown in Figure 5.3, Section C. Standards and street sections for the town center commercial streets are provided in Figures 6.9 through 6.11 of Chapter VI, "Community Design."
8. *Local Streets*
Local streets are not located in the circulation diagram. They provide access to neighborhoods within the Plan Area and include non-residential and residential streets. Local streets are low traffic volume, 2-lane roadways with parallel parking, separated sidewalks, and tree-lined landscape parkways. Local streets will be determined in conjunction with specific site development at the time of tentative map submittal. Sections for local residential streets and cul-de-sacs are provided in Figure 5.3, Sections R1, R2, R3, R5, and R6.

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

9. Residential Alleys

Residential alleys, as shown in Figure 5.3, Section R4 shall be designed to the following standards:

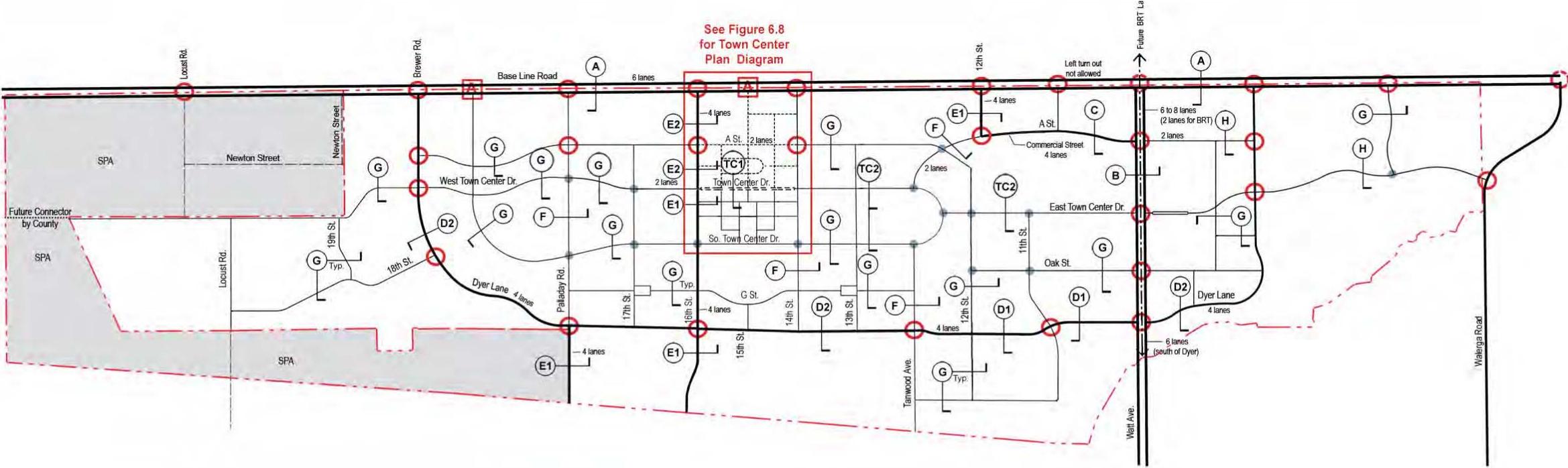
- a. Residential alleys are encouraged to be continuous through a block. However, if dead end alleys are allowed. Dead end alleys shall be no more than 150 feet long and shall provide visibility from one end of the alley to the other.*
- b. Landscaping shall be provided, consistent with Policy 6.6-4.*

Policy 5.5 Private Local Streets.

Private local streets will be allowed within a development site subject to the review and approval of the County. Where access is to be provided by private local streets, the private street easement width can be less than 40 feet but cannot be less than the roadway dimensions (from back of curb to back of curb) shown on the street sections in Figure 5.3. Setbacks for private streets shall be measured from the back of the sidewalk. 12.5 feet wide public utilities easements (PUE) shall be provided adjacent to the private road for the benefit of utility companies serving the development. Exceptions to the 12.5 feet wide PUE may be granted upon approval by utility providers, if such easements are not needed.

Private streets shall be created as either a private roadway, public utility and emergency access easement, or as a separate parcel to be owned and maintained by a private entity, such as a Homeowner's Association. Placer County or a CSA will not accept the dedication or maintenance of private streets.

Figure 5.2 Roadway Circulation Diagram



EDAW

LEGEND

- Thoroughfare
- Major Arterial (4 lanes)
- Collector (2 lanes)
- Existing Road
- Future Road
- Town Center Drive
- Town Center Street
- Future BRT Lanes
- Roundabouts
- Traffic Signals
- Existing Traffic Signals
- Section Cuts

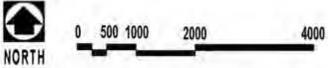
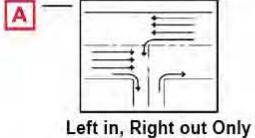
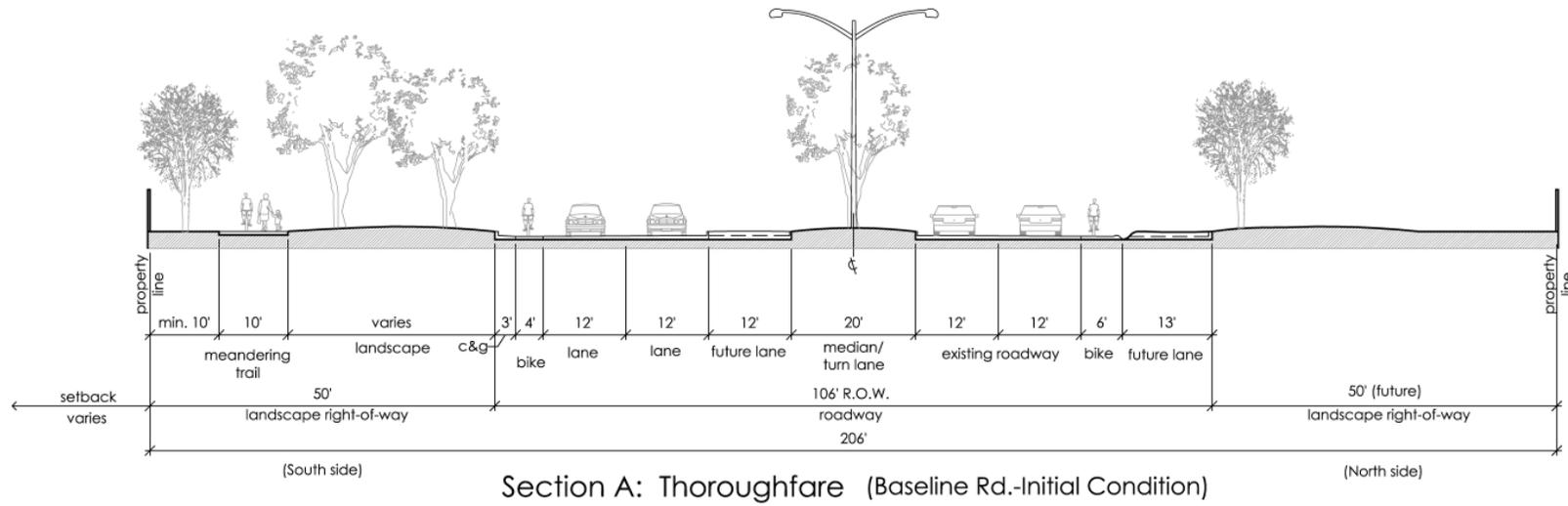


Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Thoroughfare (Base Line Road)

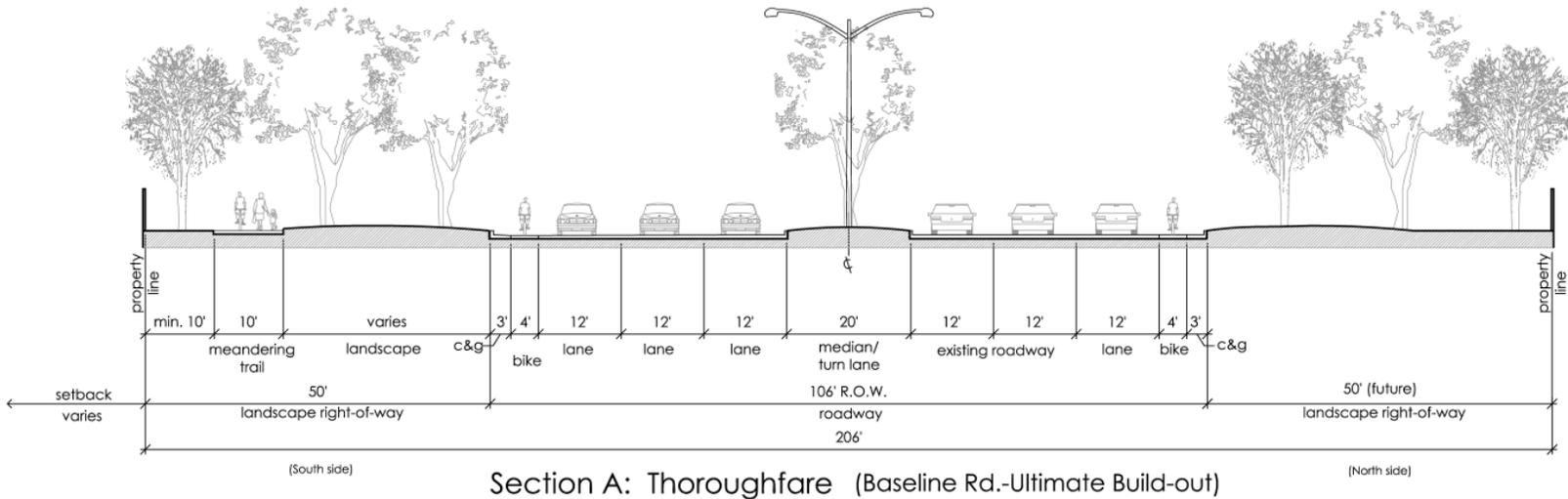


LEGEND

landscape	landscaping	bike	bike lane
lane	driving lane	c&g	curb and gutter
R.O.W.	right-of-way	min.	minimum

Notes:

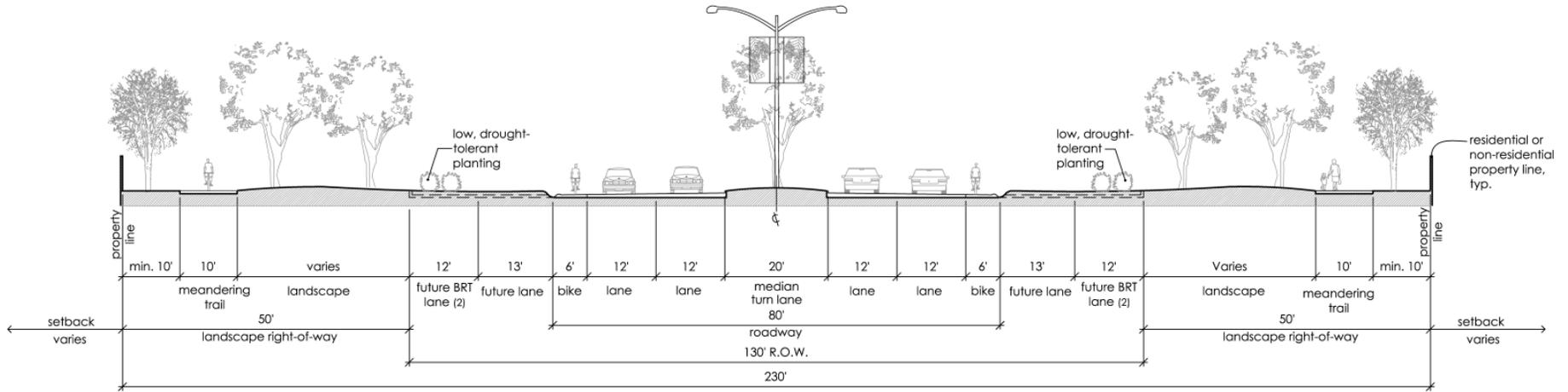
- (1) Core infrastructure system in initial phase of development



Notes:

- (1) Plan Area build-out condition

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Thoroughfare (Watt Avenue Phase 1 and 2)



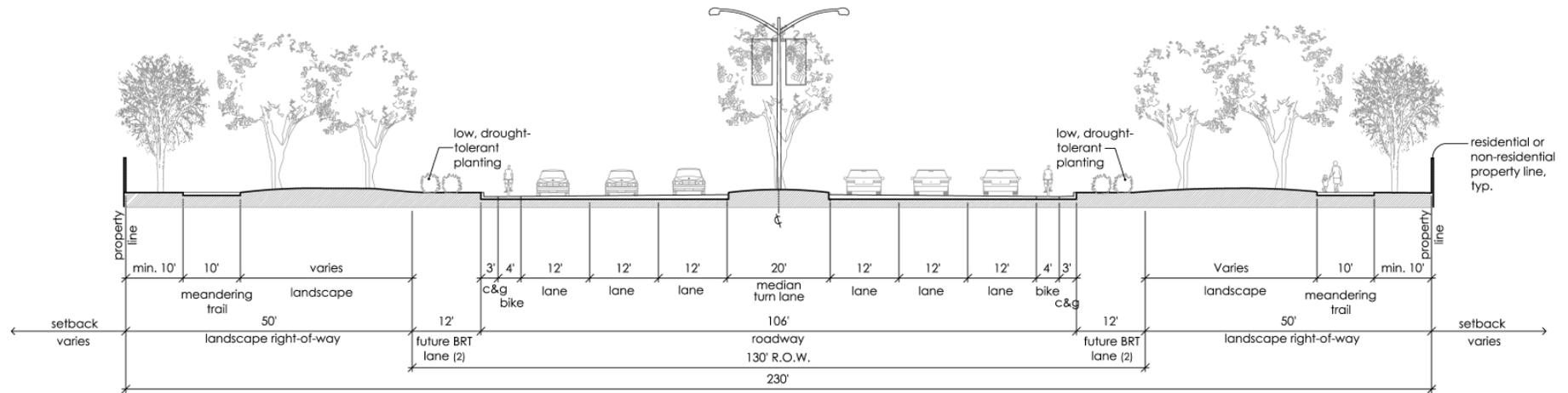
Section B: Thoroughfare (Watt Ave.-Phase 1)

LEGEND

landscape	landscaping	bike	bike lane	c&g	curb and gutter
lane	driving lane	BRT	bus rapid transit		
R.O.W.	right-of-way	min.	minimum		

Notes:

- (1) Core infrastructure in initial phase of development
- (2) Location of transit to be determined in the future

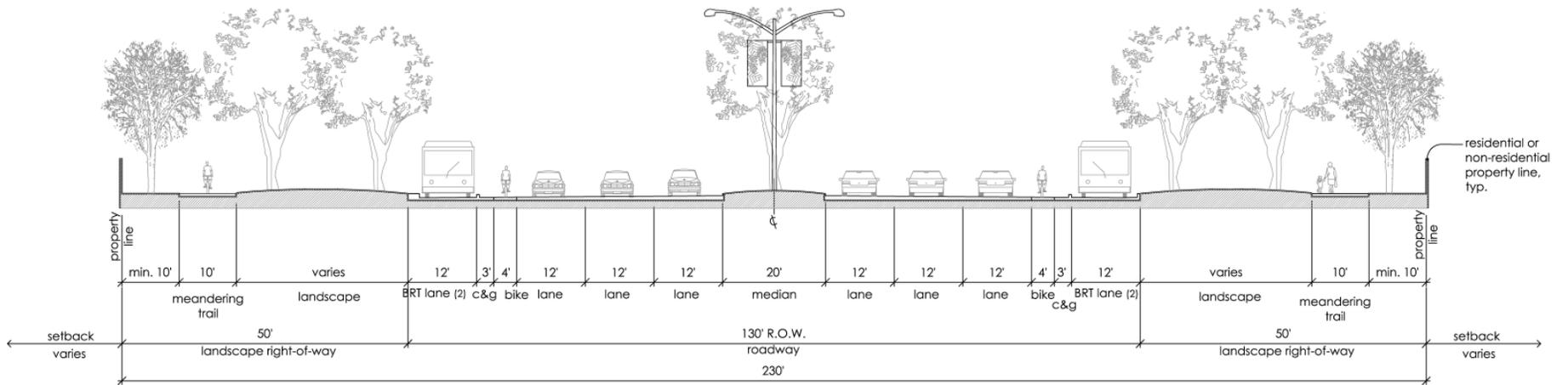


Section B: Thoroughfare (Watt Ave.-Phase 2)

Notes:

- (1) Plan Area build-out condition with transit R.O.W. reserved
- (2) Location of transit to be determined in the future

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Thoroughfare (Watt Avenue Phase 3)



Section B: Thoroughfare (Watt Ave.-Phase 3)

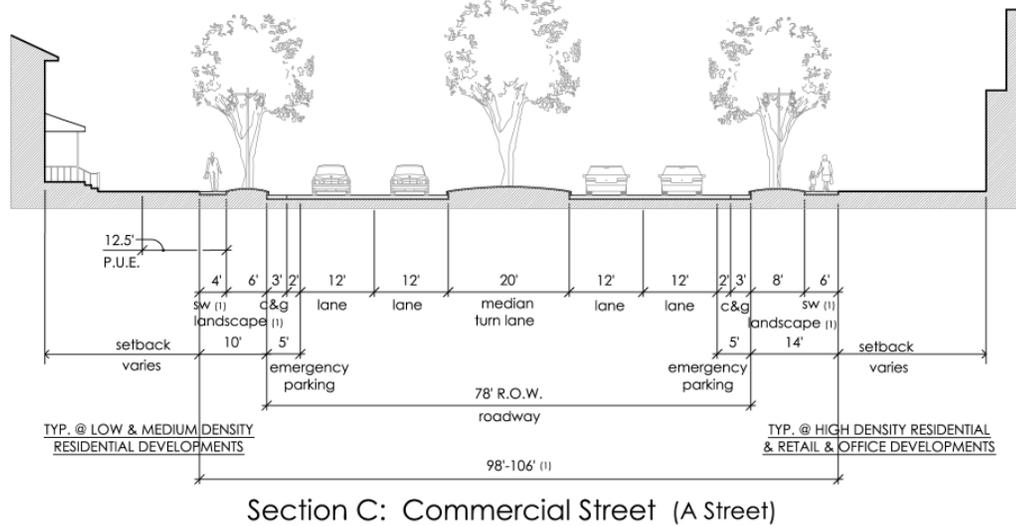
LEGEND

landscape	landscaping	bike	bike lane	c&g	curb and gutter
lane	driving lane	BRT	bus rapid transit		
R.O.W.	right-of-way	min.	minimum		

Notes:

- (1) Ultimate build-out condition with BRT transit
- (2) Location of transit to be determined in the future

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Commercial Street



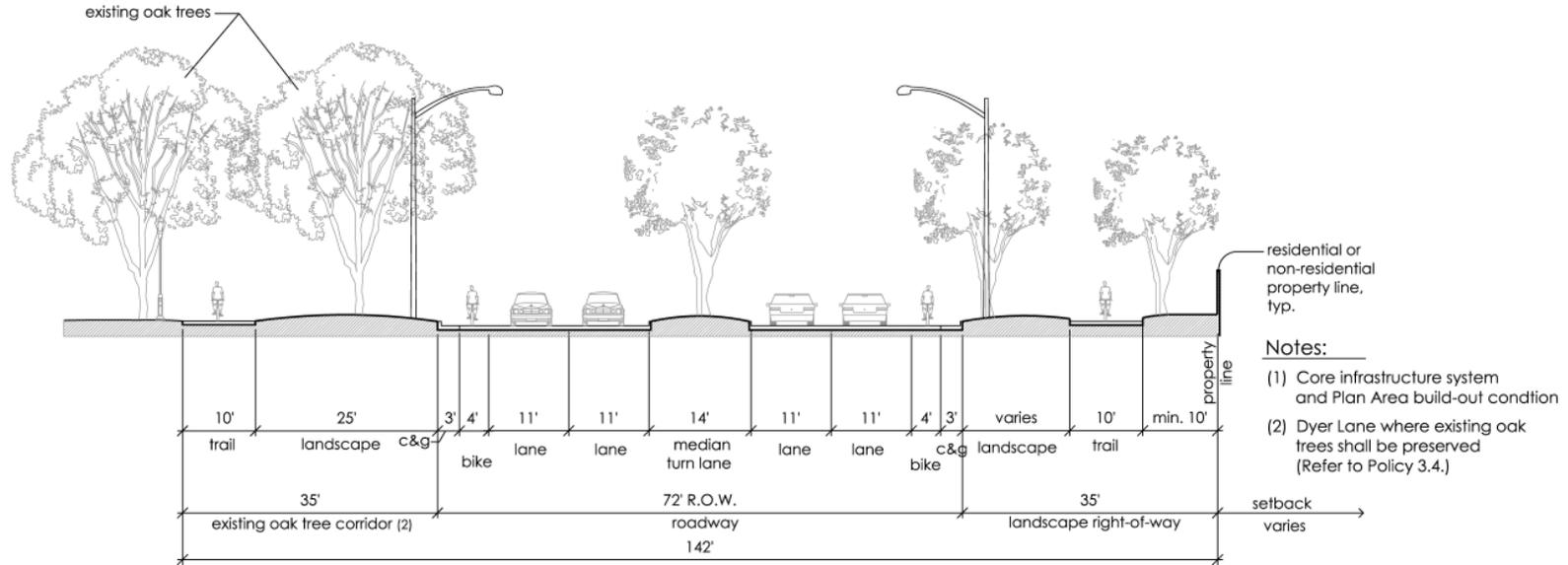
LEGEND

sw	sidewalk
landscape	landscaping
lane	driving lane
bike	bike lane
c&g	curb and gutter
jog	jogging path
min.	minimum
P.U.E.	public utility easement
R.O.W.	right of way
typ.	typical

Notes:

(1) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.

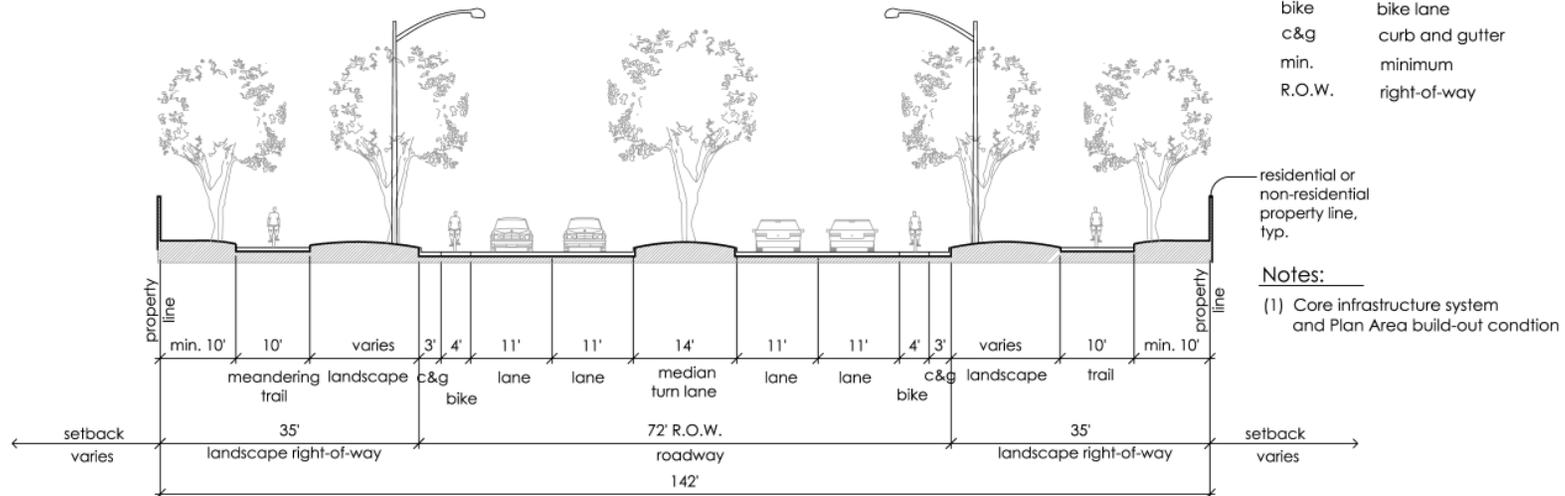
Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Major Arterial Street (Dyer Lane)



Section D1: Major Arterial Street (Dyer Lane-1)

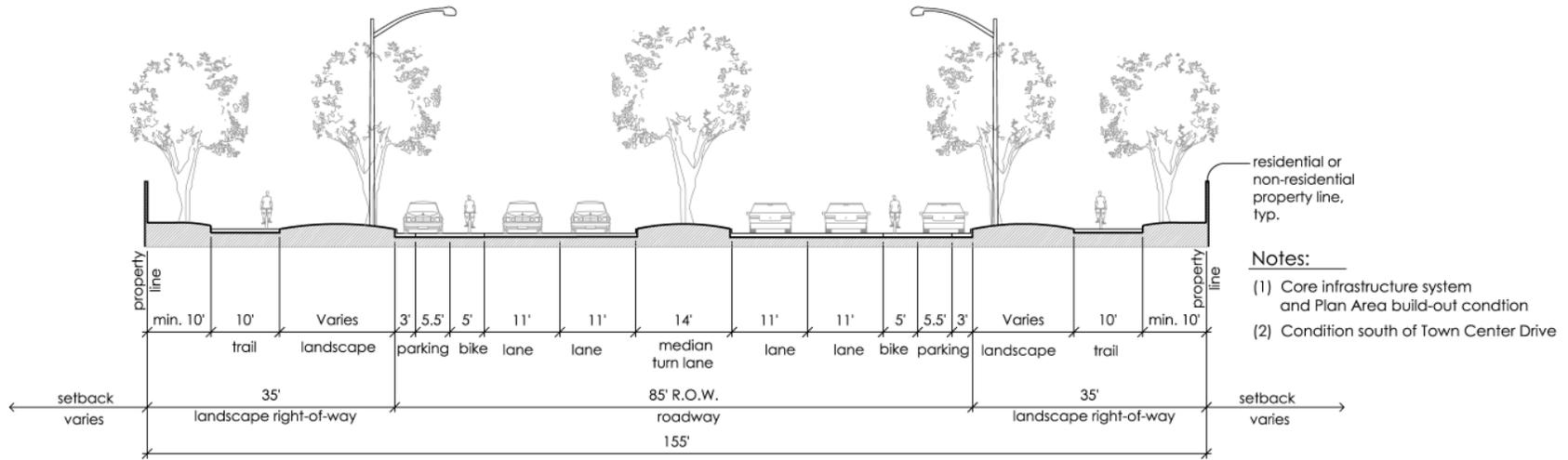
LEGEND

landscape	landscaping
lane	driving lane
bike	bike lane
c&g	curb and gutter
min.	minimum
R.O.W.	right-of-way



Section D2: Major Arterial Street (Dyer Lane-2)

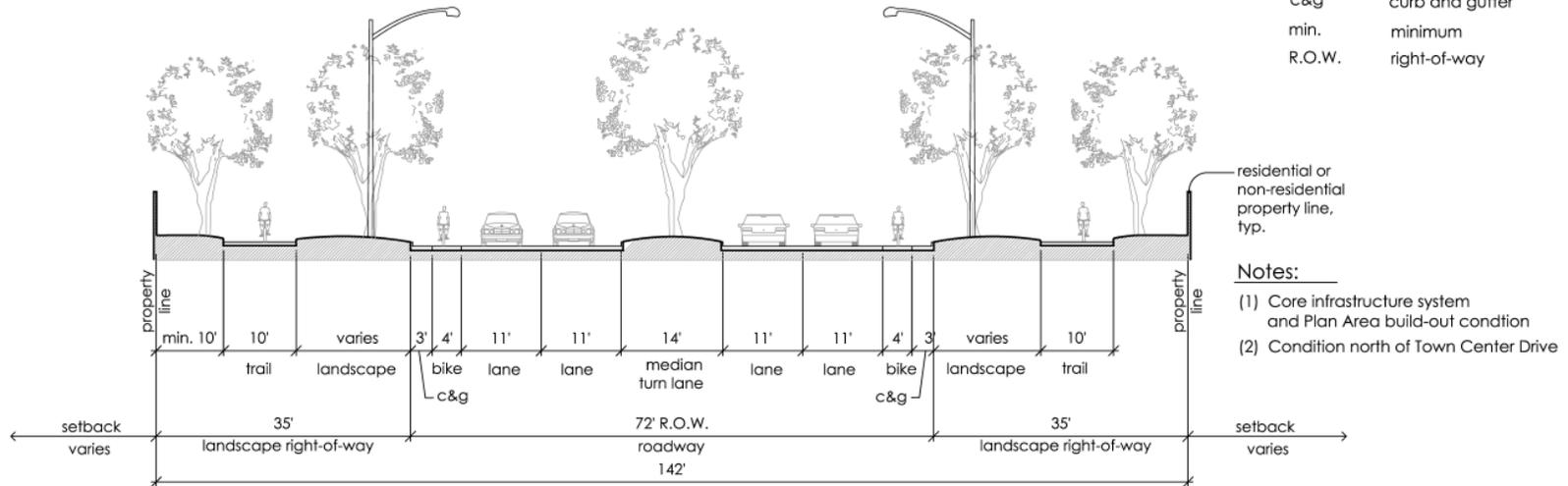
Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections—Major Arterial Street (16th Street)



Section E1: Major Arterial Streets (16th Street-South)

LEGEND

landscape	landscaping
lane	driving lane
bike	bike lane
c&g	curb and gutter
min.	minimum
R.O.W.	right-of-way



Section E2: Major Arterial Street (16th Street-North)

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Major Collector Street

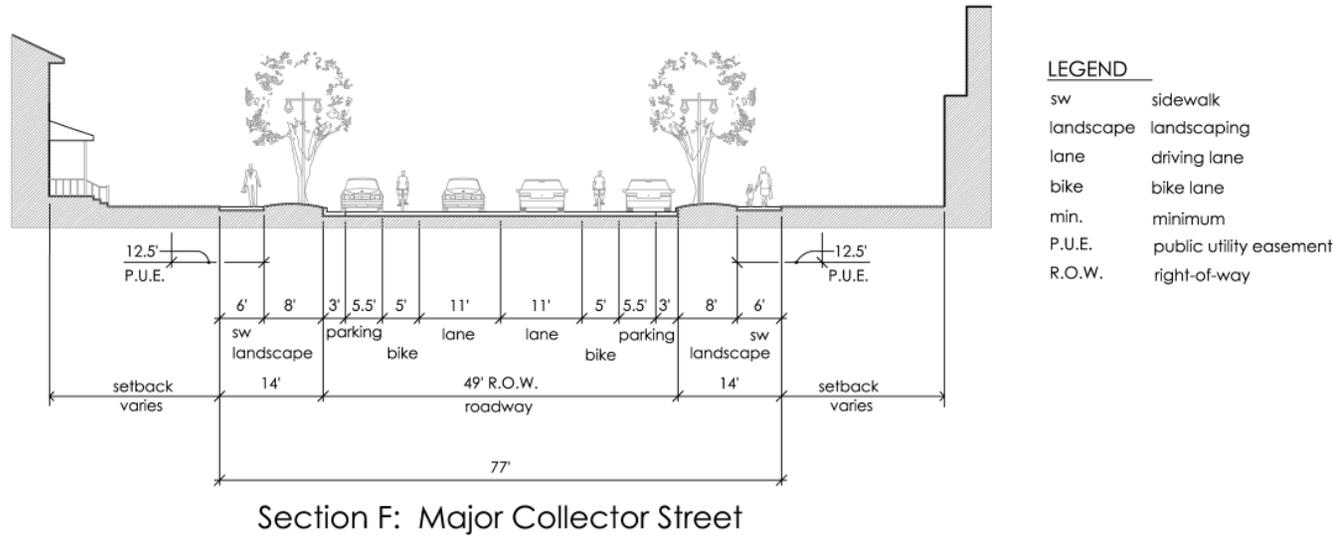
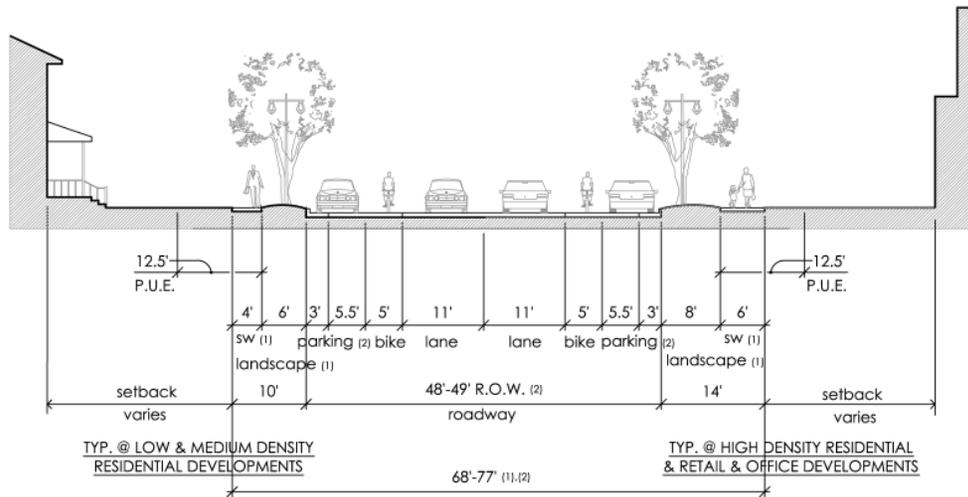
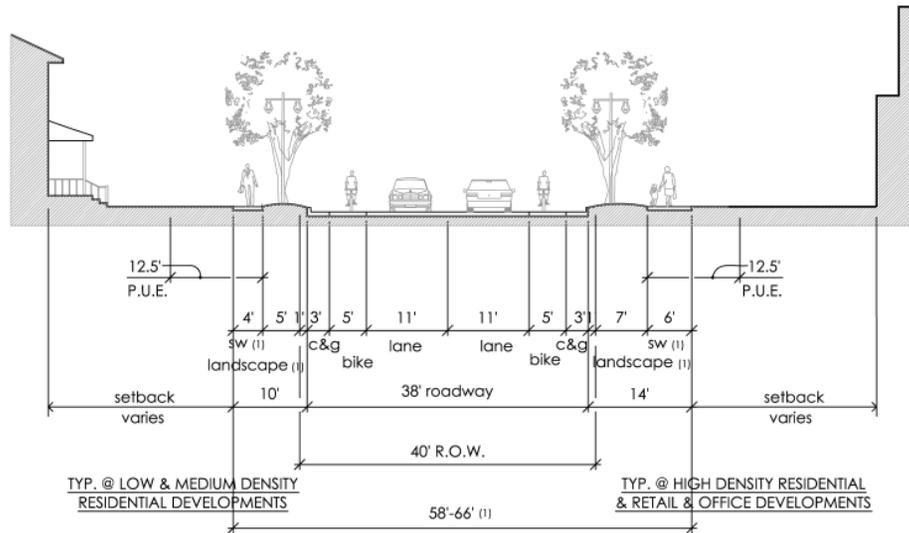


Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Collector Street



Section G: Collector Street



Section H: Collector Street

Notes:

- (1) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.
- (2) Rolled curbs may be allowed subject to County review. Parallel parking lanes shall be 8-feet wide to back of curb at rolled curbs and shall be 8.5-feet wide to back of curb at vertical curbs.

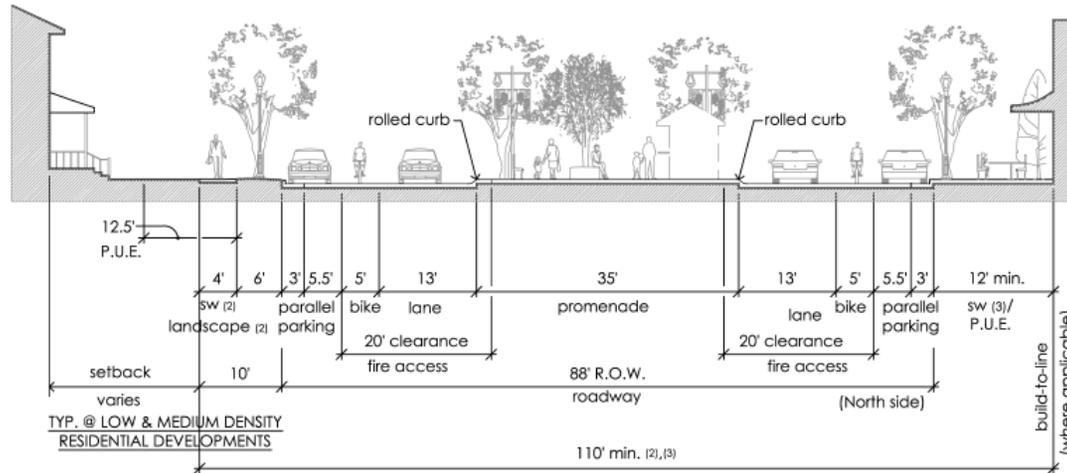
LEGEND

sw	sidewalk
landscape	landscaping
lane	driving lane
bike	bike lane
c&g	curb and gutter
min.	minimum
P.U.E.	public utility easement
R.O.W.	right-of-way
typ.	typical

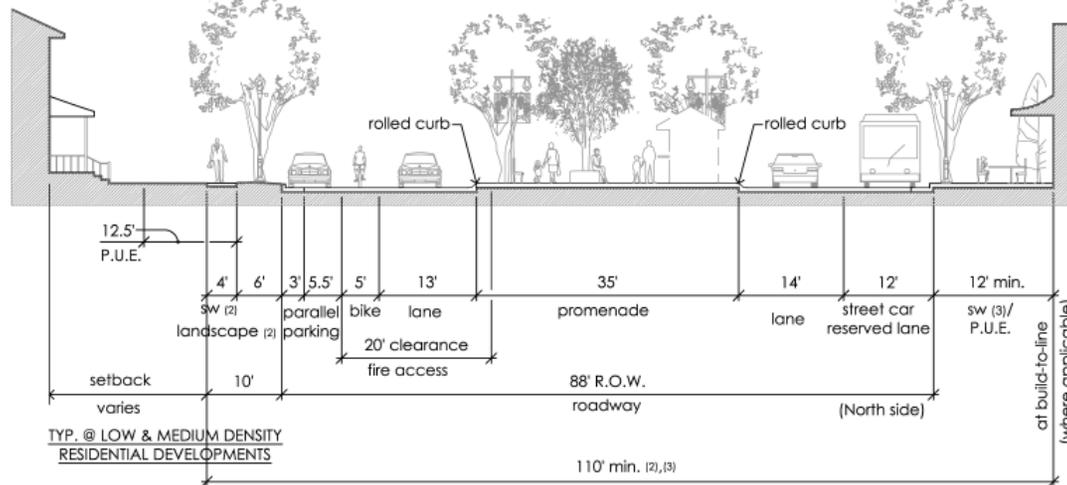
Notes:

- (1) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–Town Center Drive



Section TC1: Town Center Drive (Initial Condition)



Section TC1: Town Center Drive (Build-out) Elevation

Notes:

- (1) Plan Area initial condition or condition without streetcar
- (2) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.
- (3) The minimum overall sidewalk width in the Town Center shall be 12 feet with a preferred width of 16 feet. Sidewalks fronting retail and office developments shall maintain a minimum 6-foot wide clearance for pedestrian traffic. Also refer to Policy 6.29, "Town Center Sidewalks."

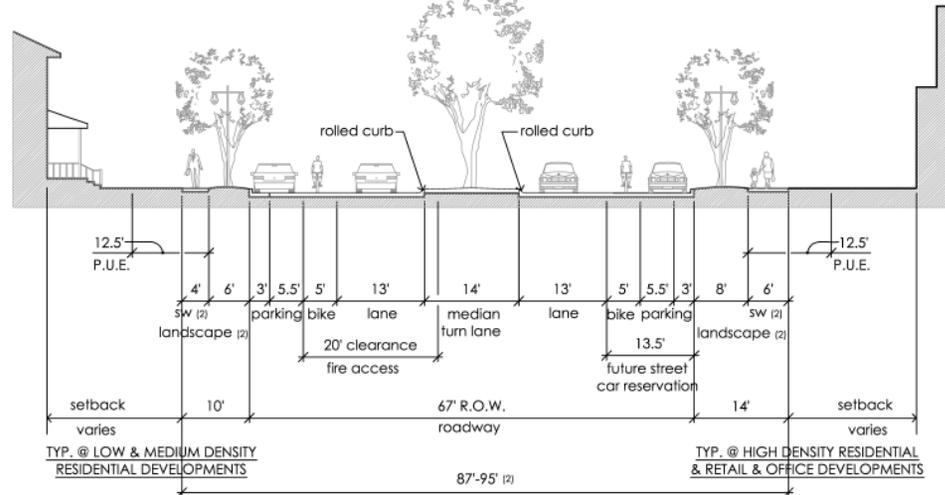
LEGEND

sw	sidewalk
landscape	landscaping
lane	driving lane
bike	bike lane
min.	minimum
P.U.E.	public utility easement
R.O.W.	right-of-way
typ.	typical

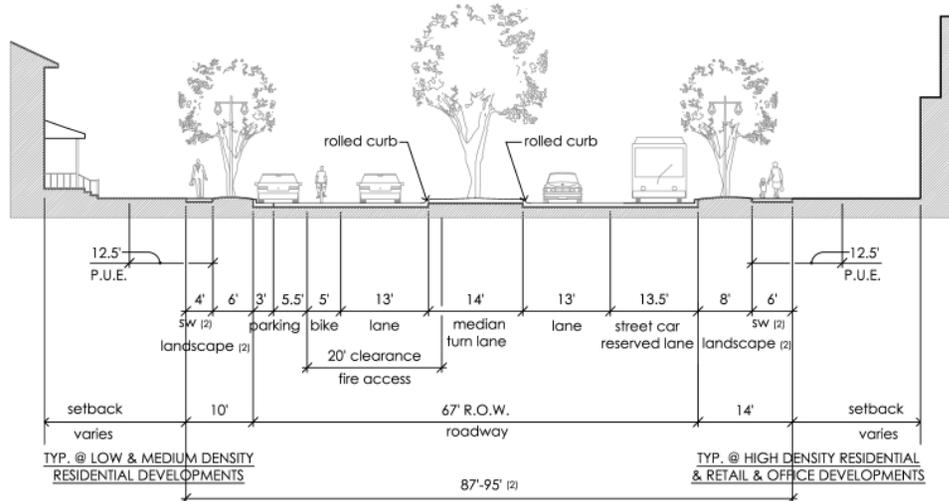
Notes:

- (1) Plan Area build out condition with streetcar
- (2) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.
- (3) Sidewalks fronting retail and office developments shall maintain a minimum 6-foot wide clearance for pedestrian traffic. Also refer to Policy 6.29, "Town Center Sidewalks."

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections–East Town Center Drive



Section TC2: Town Center Drive (Initial Condition)



Section TC2: Town Center Drive (Build-out)

Notes:

- (1) Plan Area initial condition or condition without streetcar
- (2) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.

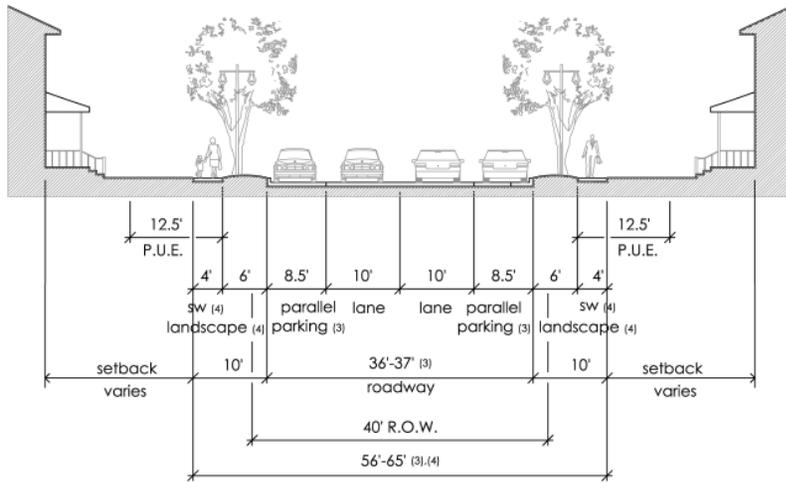
LEGEND

sw	sidewalk
landscape	landscaping
lane	driving lane
bike	bike lane
min.	minimum
P.U.E.	public utility easement
R.O.W.	right-of-way
typ.	typical

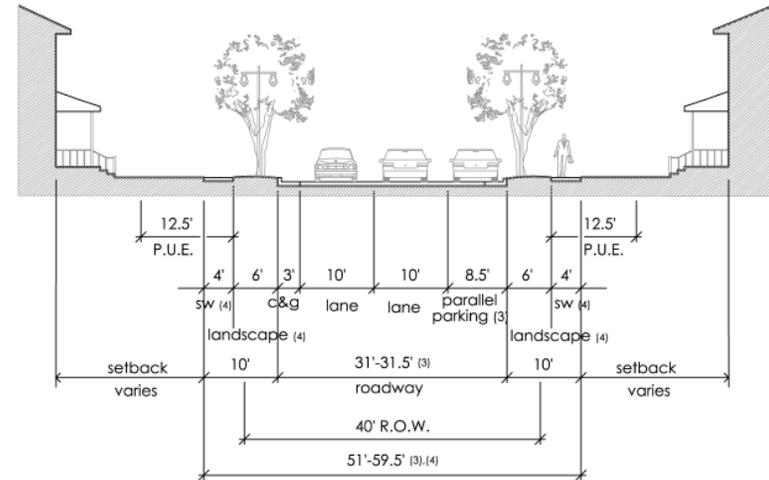
Notes:

- (1) Plan Area initial condition or condition with streetcar
- (2) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections—Residential Street



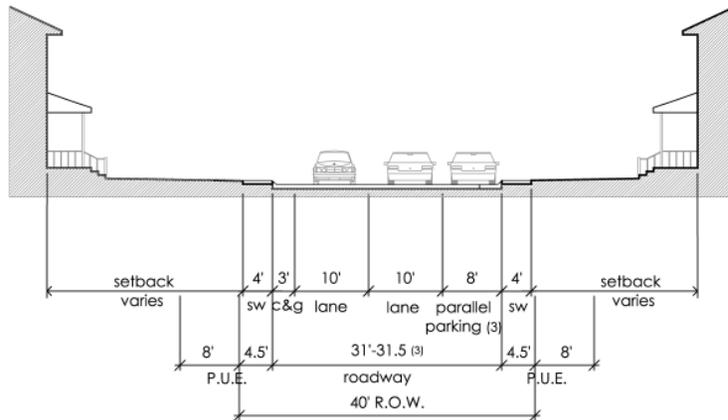
Section R1: Residential Street- Type A⁽⁵⁾
Parking on Both Sides



Section R2: Residential Street- Type B^{(2),(5)}
Parking on One Side

LEGEND

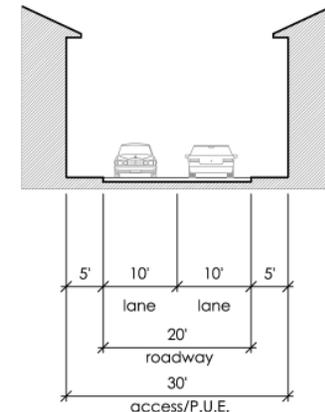
sw	sidewalk	bike	bike lane	c&g	curb and gutter
landscape	landscaping	P.U.E.	public utility easement		
lane	driving lane	R.O.W.	right-of-way		



Section R3: Residential Cul-de-Sac Street⁽⁵⁾
(Ten Units or Less)

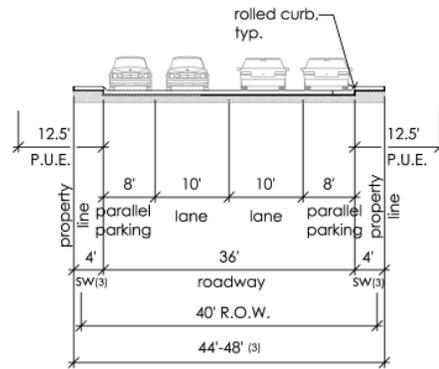
Notes:

- (1) A min. 12.5-foot P.U.E. is required adjacent to R.O.W. for all residential streets with exceptions provided upon approval by utility providers.
- (2) Parallel parking shall be provided only on one side of the street for single loaded street conditions, streets adjacent to open space and loop roads. (Refer to Section R2).
- (3) Rolled curbs may be allowed subject to County review. Parallel parking lanes shall be 8-feet wide to back of curb at rolled curbs and shall be 8.5-feet wide to back of curb at vertical curbs.
- (4) A 4-foot sidewalk and 6-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk and 8-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.
- (5) Private residential streets may have a road easement width that is less than 40' but shall not have a roadway width (back of curb to back of curb) that is less than the roadway widths for residential sections R1-R4.

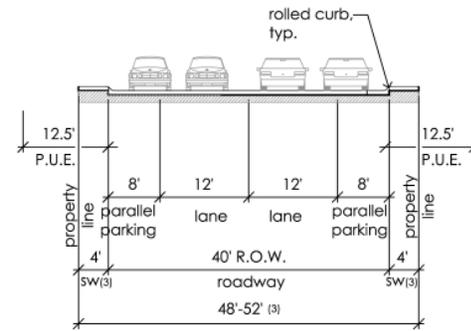


Section R4: Residential Alley

Figure 5.3 Roadway Sections—Residential Street



Section R5: Internal Residential Street
(In Age-Restricted Community)



Section R6: Internal Residential Street
(In Age-Restricted Community)
(At High Volume Locations)

LEGEND

sw	sidewalk	c&g	curb and gutter
landscape	landscaping	P.U.E.	public utility easement
lane	driving lane	R.O.W.	right-of-way

Notes:

- (1) A min. 12.5-foot P.U.E. is required adjacent to R.O.W. for all residential streets with exceptions provided upon approval by utility providers.
- (2) Parallel parking shall be provided only on one side of the street for single loaded street conditions, streets adjacent to open space and loop roads. (Refer to Section R2).
- (3) A 4-foot sidewalk shall be provided adjacent to low and medium density residential developments; a 6-foot sidewalk shall be provided adjacent to high density residential, retail and office developments.

Roadway Design Guidelines

Roadways shall be designed according to the following guidelines:

1. Roads shall be designed for their dual roles as vehicular and non-vehicular transportation corridors with landscape berms or open space parkways, containing bicycle and pedestrian trails.
2. Local roadways shall be located to facilitate local circulation and shall discourage regional thru-traffic. Regional thru-traffic shall be concentrated on Base Line Road and Watt Avenue.
3. Thoroughfares, Base Line Road and Watt Avenue, shall be located at the perimeter of major development areas.
4. A finer grain network of connector streets shall be located to provide convenient access to all land use parcels.
5. East-west connector streets shall generally provide through connections between and through land use areas while north-south connector streets may be more discontinuous, terminating at parks, open space, and neighborhood entries.
6. Multiple points of access to development areas are encouraged, to maximize the number of streets that carry traffic and the distribution of traffic loads from each development area.



A street designed for both vehicular and non-vehicular transportation modes



A continuous arterial street designed to provide access to neighborhood development

7. Neighborhoods should be designed with internal connecting streets to encourage a more open and accessible network for residents and improve the distribution of traffic throughout the roadway network. However, cul-de-sac roads are not excluded within residential areas as long as they are not excessively used.
8. Development areas and commercial sites shall be interconnected to allow for internal circulation and minimize impacts on adjacent arterial roadways.
9. Cul-de-sac roads should be no greater than 800 feet in length.
10. Streetscapes shall be designed in accordance with the design guidelines found in Chapter VI, "Community Design."

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

5.3.2 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

Regional circulation improvements are identified by the Placer, Sacramento, and Sutter County General Plans and the *2004 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*, prepared by SACOG. Planned improvements include expansions to regional roadways, local roadways, regional transit systems, and trail systems needed to accommodate growth anticipated to occur in this region. These facilities will provide capacity to the surrounding local and regional developments. A number of local and off-site intersection improvements will be constructed as part of the Placer Vineyards development to accommodate cumulative traffic levels.

Policy 5.6 Regional Transportation Improvements.

Relative to the traffic impacts generated by the project, Placer Vineyards landowners and the County shall define Development Agreements to ensure that the project pays for its fair share of transportation improvements.

Policy 5.7 Off-site Transportation Improvements.

Placer Vineyards shall provide traffic signals and off-site intersection improvements, in conjunction with development in the Plan Area at the following locations:

- 1. Riego Road and East Natomas Road*
- 2. Riego Road and Pleasant Grove Road*
- 3. Base Line Road and Pleasant Grove Road*
- 4. Watt Avenue and PFE Road*

Policy 5.8 On-site Transportation Improvements.

The Placer Vineyards development shall fund and construct all transportation network improvements, including roadway design, traffic signalization, and traffic calming, necessary to support the new development when and as they are needed.

Policy 5.9 Concurrency.

Roadway improvements shall be constructed to coincide with the demands of new development as required to satisfy minimum level of service standards, as set by this Specific Plan.

Policy 5.10 Local Intersection Improvements.

Placer Vineyards shall provide local intersection improvements as guided by Figure 5.2.

- 1. Signalized intersections for the thoroughfares, Base Line Road and Watt Avenue, are provided in Figure 5.2 at the following locations:*
 - a. On Base Line Road, signalized intersections shall be located on Locust Road, Dyer Lane (west), Palladay Road, 16th Street, 14th Street, 12th Street, Tanwood Avenue, Watt Avenue, Dyer Lane (east), and Park Street.*
 - b. On Watt Avenue, signalized intersections shall be provided at A Street, Town Center Drive (east), Oak Street, and Dyer Lane.*
 - c. On Dyer Lane, signalized intersection shall be provided at A Street (east and west), Town Center Drive (east and west), 18th Street, Palladay Road, 16th Street, Tanwood Avenue, and 11th Street.*
 - d. For commercial developments on A Street, signalized intersections shall be provided at Palladay Road, 16th Street, 14th Street, and 12th Street.*
- 2. Base Line Road and Watt Avenue intersections shall be planned and designed to accommodate the needs of thru-traffic. This will include traffic synchronization and intersection designs that favor through movements and minimize conflict points. This may also include additional turning lanes or other special features, such as pedestrian amenities that highlight intersection crossings.*
- 3. Roundabouts shall be located along the major east-west collector streets and lower volume traffic streets, focused at the intersections of residential neighborhoods.*
- 4. Roundabouts shall be considered as an alternative, where all-way stops or traffic signals are indicated in the future (i.e., project build-out).*
- 5. The County shall also reserve the right during the large lot or small lot tentative map process to require additional traffic signals or roundabouts, as determined to be necessary for traffic flow or safety.*
- 6. The County shall also reserve the right to modify the minimum distance from a street intersection to a development driveway, as determined to be necessary for the traffic flow or safety of a specific site condition.*

Policy 5.11 Access within the Development Site.

Primary access to development will be avoided on high-volume arterial and thoroughfare roadways, and instead will be provided on collector or neighborhood streets and shall comply with the following standards:

1. Thoroughfares shall provide limited access. No driveways shall be permitted on Base Line Road or Watt Avenue. Access to properties fronting on Base Line Road shall be provided mainly from A Street and to a lesser extent from the roads that connect A Street to Base Line Road. Access to parcels from these connector roads shall be located at sufficient distance from Base Line Road so as not to impede the flow of traffic or create safety issues.
2. Access to development sites from thoroughfares and arterials allowing for left turns into and out of the sites shall be limited to the identified signalized intersections in the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan, unless otherwise required under future development patterns.
3. Minor right-turn-in and right-turn-out access points may be permitted by the County upon further detailed review and analysis of potential traffic and circulation impacts.
4. See Figure 6.18 in Chapter 6, "Community Design," for conceptual site access designs for neighborhood commercial sites on high-volume roadways.

Policy 5.12 Minimizing Barriers to Access.

The circulation and site plans for individual developments proposed within the Plan Area shall minimize barriers to access by pedestrians, the disabled, and bicyclists. Handicap ramps shall be incorporated into the design of all intersections and bicycle racks shall be located convenient to all retail, office, and civic sites.

Policy 5.13 Fire and Emergency Access.

All new development shall be coordinated with the local fire department to ensure that adequate emergency access is provided to all development areas and that emergency access routes are designed to the specification of the Placer County Fire Department.

Policy 5.14 Sound Walls.

Use of sound walls is discouraged. Where sound walls are required because of noise levels and traffic volumes on major streets, screen landscaping and mounding should be provided to minimize their visual impact and create a more attractive streetscape. Refer to Section 4.10 for additional policies related to noise levels and to Section 6.4.3 for wall, fence, and screening techniques and design guidelines.

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

5.3.3 TRAFFIC CALMING DESIGNS

Policy 5.15 Traffic Calming Roadway Design.

Use of traffic calming roadway design techniques in the design of residential streets and intersections is required. Techniques may include corner bulb-outs at intersections, traffic circles and rotaries, chokers, chicanes, etc. See the chart below and Figure 5.4 for recommended traffic calming designs. In all cases, traffic calming devices shall not restrict access by emergency vehicles or limit emergency response times below the required level of service standard.

A. Narrowing and Horizontal Devices

Traffic Calming Device	Description	Application
<p style="text-align: center;">Neckdown/Bulb-out</p>  <p>Source: ITE pedestrian bicycle council</p>	<p>Neckdowns/bulb-outs shorten the crossing distance of intersections and decrease the curb radii, reducing turning vehicle speeds.</p>	<p>Neckdowns/bulb-outs can be used at intersections or midblock locations on most roadway types where the expected average daily traffic is less than 20,000 vehicles per day and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Two-lane choker</p>  <p>Source: ITE pedestrian bicycle council</p>	<p>2-lane chokers are midblock curb extensions that narrow a street. Chokers leave the street cross section with 2 lanes that are narrower than the normal cross section.</p>	<p>2-lane chokers should be used at midblock locations only on most roadway types where the expected average daily traffic is less than 20,000 vehicles per day and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less.</p>

A. Narrowing and Horizontal Devices

Traffic Calming Device	Description	Application
<p>One-lane choker</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/ City of Portland Office of Transportation</p>	<p>One-lane chokers narrow the roadway width so that there is only enough width to allow travel in one direction at a time. They operate similarly to one-lane bridges, where cars approaching on one side must wait until all traffic in the other direction has cleared before proceeding.</p>	<p>The example provided is the entryway into a residential development. One-lane chokers should be used at midblock locations only on lower order residential streets where the expected average daily traffic is less than 3,000 vehicles per day and the posted speed limit is 30 mph or less.</p>
<p>Center Island Narrowing</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/ City of Portland Office of Transportation</p>	<p>These raised islands located along the centerline of a street narrow the travel lanes at that location. They can also be used at intersections to provide refuge for pedestrians when fitted with a gap for pedestrians to walk through.</p>	<p>Center island narrowings can be used on most roadway types where the expected average daily traffic is less than 20,000 vehicles per day and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less.</p>
<p>Chicane</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/ City of Portland Office of Transportation</p>	<p>These curb extensions alternate from one side of the street to the other, forming S-shaped curves. Chicanes can also be created by alternating on-street parking between one side of the road and the other</p>	<p>Chicanes should be used at midblock locations only. Application where the expected average daily traffic is less than 5,000 vehicles per day and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less is appropriate.</p>

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

A. Narrowing and Horizontal Devices

Traffic Calming Device	Description	Application
<p>Lateral Shift</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/</p>	<p>These are curb extensions or other physical shifts of the roadway on otherwise straight streets that cause deflection.</p>	<p>Lateral shifts should be used at midblock locations only. Application where the expected average daily traffic is less than 5,000 vehicles per day and the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less is appropriate.</p>
<p>Traffic Circle</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/</p>	<p>Traffic circles are raised islands, placed in intersections, around which traffic circulates. Stop signs or yield signs can be used as traffic controls at the approaches of the traffic circle. Circles prevent drivers from speeding through intersections by impeding the straight-through movement and forcing drivers to slow down to yield.</p>	<p>Traffic circles should be used at low volume residential intersections. The combined intersection volume should not exceed 10,000 vehicles per day.</p>
<p>Roundabout</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/</p>	<p>Roundabouts are typically larger than neighborhood traffic circles and are used on higher volume streets to allocate right-of-way among competing movements. They have splitter islands to channel approaching traffic to the right, and do not have stop signs.</p>	<p>Single-lane roundabouts can be used at intersections where collector streets intersect. The combined intersection volume should not exceed 16,000 vehicles per day. A single lane roundabout may also be used in place of a traffic signal.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 5.4 for a typical roundabout design prototype for Placer Vineyards.</p>

B. Vertical Devices

Traffic Calming Device	Description	Application
<p>Textured Pavement</p>  <p>Source: www.pedbikeimages.org/ Dan Burden</p>	<p>Textured colored pavement includes the use of stamped pavement (asphalt) or alternate paving materials to create an uneven surface for vehicles to traverse. It alerts drivers to a change in surroundings or emphasizes other traffic calming devices.</p>	<p>Textured pavement can be used at intersections, midblock locations, or driveways. This treatment can be applied to most roadway types, but should be limited in residential areas due to the noise created.</p>

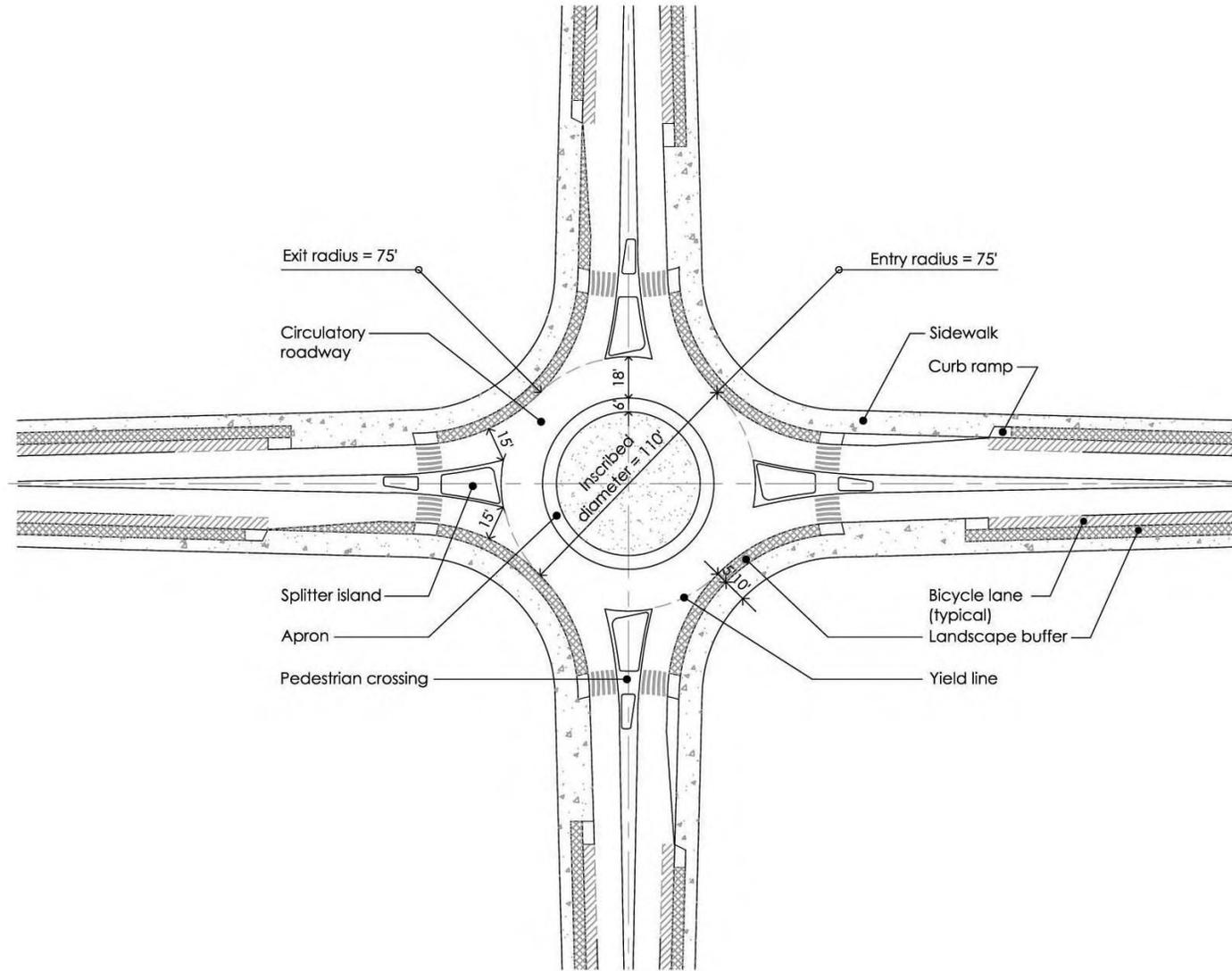
TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

C. Volume Control Devices

Traffic Calming Device	Description	Application
<p>Median Barrier</p> 	<p>These raised islands are located along the centerline of a street that continues through an intersection to block through movement at a cross street.</p>	<p>Median barriers are similar to center island narrowing but are used at intersection locations to prohibit certain turning movements. They can be used on most roadway types where the expected average daily traffic is less than 5,000 vehicles per day.</p>
<p>Forced Turn Island</p> 	<p>These raised islands prohibit certain movements on approaches to an intersection.</p>	<p>Forced turn islands channelize and/or restrict certain movements at an intersection. This treatment can be applied to most roadway types where the expected average daily traffic is less than 5,000 vehicles per day.</p>

Source: Fehr and Peers 2005

Figure 5.4 Typical Roundabout Design



TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

5.3.4 TRANSIT SYSTEM

The Plan Area will include systems and facilities to promote public transit use, including dedicated bus rapid transit lanes on Watt Avenue from Base Line Road to the southern limits of the Plan Area, a transit center with bus turnouts, and provisions for future, local bus service on local roadways with bus turnouts and stops appropriately spaced.

An internal transit system shall be planned and implemented as the project is constructed. An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) dial-a-ride service will be provided. A fixed-route internal service will be provided that connects the village centers with the town center and other areas as deemed appropriate. Figure 5.5 shows the potential location of bus stops and the potential circulation routes for the public transit systems serving Placer Vineyards. Commuter service will be provided to downtown Sacramento. The transit center, proposed in the east village center along Watt Avenue, will serve as a major transfer point between regional and local transit service.

Goal 5.6 Promote public transit systems as an alternative means of transportation to reduce traffic congestion.

Policy 5.16 *Bus Rapid Transit System.*

A public transit system and dedication of right-of-way corridors for future bus rapid transit with a feeder bus network shall be provided along Watt Avenue from Base Line Road to the Dyer Lane intersection just north of Dry Creek.

Policy 5.17 *Streetcar Right-of-Way.*

Dedication of rights-of-way for a future streetcar system shall be provided along the north side of Town Center Drive, extending from the transit center on Watt Avenue to the town center, ending at 16th Street.

Policy 5.18 *Multi-modal Transit Center.*

A transit center will be located on Town Center Drive to serve as a transfer point for regional and local transit services. The transit center site shall be of sufficient size to accommodate all future anticipated uses. It will include covered shelters, bus staging areas, park-and-ride lots, and bicycle storage facilities.

Policy 5.19 *Transit Service and Facilities*

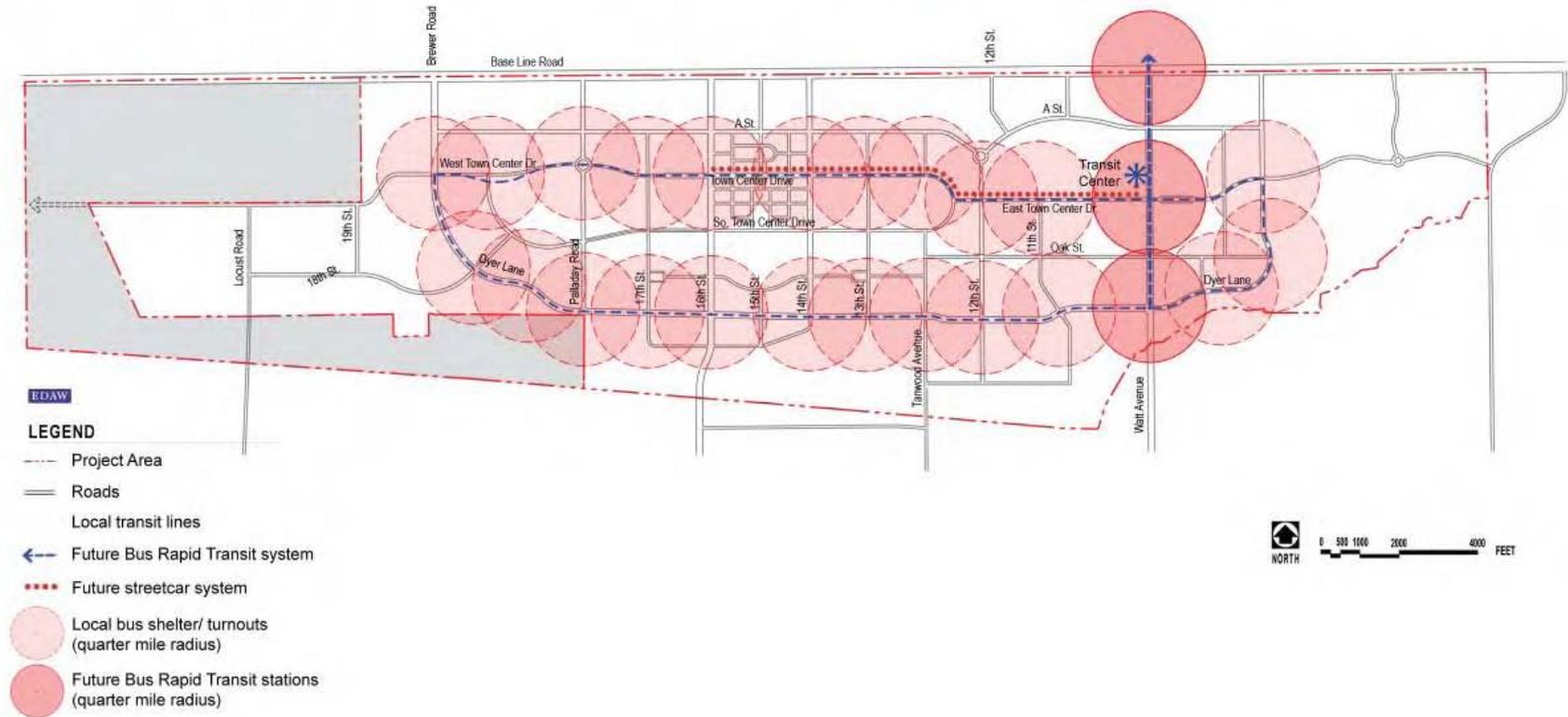
Placer Vineyards shall participate in regional service with connection to light rail transit on Watt Avenue in Sacramento County, Regional University, Galleria Mall, and other regional centers. As each parcel is developed, provisions for bus stops, turnouts, shelters, park-and-ride lots, bike lockers, lighting, and other transit-support facilities will be examined and constructed.

Policy 5.20 *Provision of Park-and-Ride Lots.*

Park-and-ride lots shall be established and maintained at the town center and transit center at the east village center. The majority of the park-and-ride spaces shall be accommodated in the transit center where a majority of local and regional commute trips will be concentrated. A minimum of 50 spaces shall be provided in the town center, established as shared parking. Other smaller park-and-ride lots are encouraged to be established as a shared parking use incorporated into the overall parking design of other commercial and office centers or adjacent to public transit.

In total, a minimum of 193 parking spaces shall be distributed between the park-and-ride lots. More park-and-ride lots should be provided, especially adjacent to neighborhood activity centers, transit routes, and major transit corridors to encourage ridesharing, promote use of public transit, and reduce air pollution.

Figure 5.5 Public Transit Concept



TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

5.3.5 BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

There are 3 basic types of bikeway trails as defined by the *Placer County Bikeway/Trails Master Plan*. They are:

Class I Bicycle Trails:

Off-street pathways completely separated from traveled roadways for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians

Class II Bicycle Lanes:

Signed and delineated on-street lanes designed for one-way use of bicycles. Class II lanes are typically located along the shoulder or gutter in a widened portion of the street.

Class III Bicycle Routes:

Non-designated, on-street routes along local public streets where bicyclists do not have a delineated lane and must share the roadway with motorists.

Class I Bicycle Trails:

The proposed off-street trail system for Placer Vineyards provides more than 46 miles of Class I bike trails, located within open space and landscape corridors along thoroughfares and arterial streets. Class I bike trails shall generally be 10-foot-wide hard surface paving, except along the Dry Creek corridor. Trails along the Dry Creek corridor shall be 12 feet with a 2-foot-wide decomposed granite jogging path on one side of the hard surface paving. The location of Class I bike trails are indicated in Figure 5.6, "Off-Street Trails Diagram," and the roadway sections in Figure 5.3.

Off-site trail dedications may be requested in association with tentative subdivision maps if it is determined by County staff that such linkages are crucial in the ability to complete major trail segments.



Class I Bicycle Trails



Class II Bicycle Lane



Class III Bicycle Route

Class II Bicycle Lanes:

Class II bicycle lanes will be located within the right-of-way of arterial, major collector, and collector streets. Bike lanes shall be designated with a white, painted stripe on the roadway. Street signs shall indicate the location of bike lanes and major destination points.

Class III Bicycle Routes:

Class III bicycle routes will be located on existing traffic lanes with low traffic volumes. These streets will connect to Class II bike lanes and Class I bike trails.

Goal 5.7 Provide a system of on- and off-street trails that connect to destinations within the Plan Area and to the regional trail network.

Policy 5.21 Trail System.

Trails shall be provided as identified by Figure 5.6, "Off-Street Trails Diagram."

Policy 5.22 Types of Trails.

Trails shall be provided within the Plan Area that offer a variety of experiences, including trails within and between parks and other public open space lands or to schools, and trails that connect to regional trails and transit facilities within and outside of the Plan Area.

Policy 5.23 Provision of Trails.

Private developers shall incorporate trail routes that are within their proposed tentative maps as identified in the trails diagram (see Figure 5.6). Placer Vineyards trails shall conform to the following standards:

- 1. In the Dry Creek corridor only, Class I bicycle trails shall be 12-foot wide hard surface paving with a 2-foot-wide decomposed granite path on one side of the paving.*
- 2. In all other areas, Class I bicycle trails shall be 10-foot wide hard surface paving.*

3. *In open space areas, natural surface (gravel, earth) multi-use trails may be set a minimum of 10 feet off the hard surface paved trail (for activities such as equestrian riding and mountain biking).*
4. *Informational signs will be placed throughout the trail system (e.g., “2.4 miles to town center”).*
5. *Trails will be set back a minimum of 10 feet from residences.*
6. *Trails will be set back a minimum of 25 feet from preserved or reconstructed wetlands, whenever possible.*
7. *Collapsible bollards or other similar devices approved by the County will be placed at entries to restrict vehicular access where trails and streets intersect.*
8. *Trail crossings of drainage ways will occur at appropriate intervals.*
9. *Traffic calming methods and signage shall be used to enhance the safety of the trail systems where they cross major or collector streets.*
10. *A Class I trail crossing shall be provided under the Watt Avenue bridge within the Dry Creek corridor.*
11. *A Class I trail shall also be provided on the east side of the Dry Creek bridge and along Watt Avenue, extending to the Placer/Sacramento County line. The Class I trail on the east side of the bridge will be separated from traffic by a railing.*

Policy 5.24 Construction of Bike Trail Improvements.

Bike trail improvements are planned to connect Morgan Creek to Gibson Ranch Park. Landowners shall design and construct bike trail improvements within the open space portions of their property, according to the following standards and provisions of the Development Agreement.

1. *In conjunction with the construction of a core backbone roadway system, a set of core backbone trails adjacent to these roadways, as described in Section 9.3 and the Public Facilities Financing Plan, shall be constructed at the same time that the core backbone roadways are constructed.*
2. *Landowners shall install sections of the trail when they install subdivision improvements within the parcels adjacent to the open space. Trail connections to the core backbone trails shall be included as part of the subdivision improvements.*

3. *Bike trail sections shall be constructed and improved according to Figure 5.6, “Off-Street Trails Diagram.” Bike trails shall be designed in accordance with the County’s design standards for off-street bike trails and the guidelines provided in the Specific Plan.*
4. *Landowners shall proceed to complete the construction of bike trail improvements at the same time that they install and complete the balance of the subdivision improvements for the parcel(s) adjacent to the open space.*
5. *Landowners shall be responsible for all costs associated with the design and construction of bike trail improvements, including the costs of preparing required plans and drawings and obtaining all required permits.*
6. *Upon completion of bike trail improvements by the landowner, the County shall accept the dedication of the bike trail and applicable open space area and assume ownership and maintenance of these facilities, provided that the cost of maintenance shall be funded by the CSA.*
7. *Construction of a bicycle/pedestrian crossing over or under Base Line Road shall be coordinated with development in the north with the City of Roseville, in conjunction with the Sierra Vista plan.*

Policy 5.25 Fire Trails/Access through Open Space.

Fire access routes shall be integrated into the open space trails system and shall comply with Placer County Fire Department standards.

1. *Open space trails shall include design features that minimize barriers to emergency response, such as knock-down bollards for emergency access at trailheads.*
2. *Rolled curb access points shall be provided in open space areas. Open space access points shall be provided at each cul-de-sac that abuts an open space and spaced every 1,000 feet along streets adjacent to open space areas. These access points shall be identified with signage and painted red curbs. Emergency access easements shall be provided for each emergency access area.*

Policy 5.26 Roadway Crossings in Utility Corridors.

Roadway crossings shall be minimized through utility corridors to reduce the fragmentation of trails and open space.

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

5.3.6 EQUESTRIAN CIRCULATION

Policy 5.27 Provision for Equestrian Trails.

An east-west equestrian trail connection is proposed within the open space buffer areas adjacent to the Placer/Sacramento County line. It will connect the Plan Area to the facilities in Gibson Ranch Park and link into the equestrian trail system proposed along the south side of Dry Creek, as directed by the Dry Creek/West Placer Community Plan.

CHAPTER VI: COMMUNITY DESIGN



6.1 COMMUNITY DESIGN CONCEPT

Context

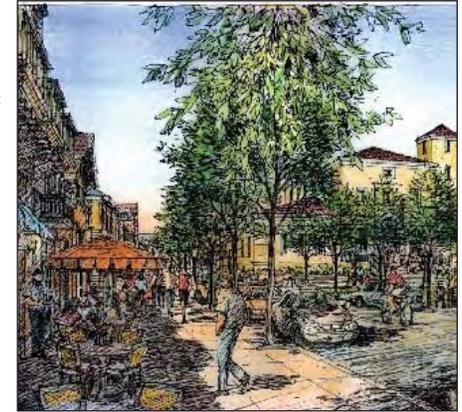
This chapter is intended to define the type of community envisioned for Placer Vineyards. This chapter sets the goals, policies, and design guidelines that ensure the creation of a safe, high quality, and livable environment for the existing and new residents of Placer Vineyards. The “Community Design” chapter along with those standards and guidelines in other chapters of the Specific Plan are intended to ensure a cohesive and unique character for Placer Vineyards, while allowing flexibility for individual property owners to develop their own unique brand of housing types and distinct neighborhoods.

The contents of this chapter shall be used in concert with the standards and guidelines found elsewhere in the Specific Plan. Refer also to the following chapters of the Specific Plan for information regarding the design of the Placer Vineyards community:

- ♦ Chapter III, “Land Use,” introduces the land use plan and describes the land uses in the community;
- ♦ Chapter V, “Transportation and Circulation,” provides the design standards and guidelines related to the design of the streets and trails within the Placer Vineyards site;
- ♦ Chapter VII, “Parks and Open Space,” describes the parks and open space network for Placer Vineyards;
- ♦ Chapter VIII, “Public Utilities and Services,” provides information on the design of the infrastructure system serving the Plan Area as well as the schools, sheriff, fire protection, government services and other community serving facilities;
- ♦ Chapter IX, “Implementation,” discusses the administration and implementation steps required to achieve the goals and regulations set forth in this Specific Plan;
- ♦ Appendix A, “Land Use and Development Standards,” further defines the intensity and density of development and permitted uses allowed in each of the land use districts; and
- ♦ Appendix B, “Recommended Plant List,” provides a list of the recommended trees, shrubs, vines, and ground covers for Placer Vineyards.

Blueprint Plan Implementation

This Specific Plan is guided by Smart Growth principles similar to the principles in the SACOG Blueprint Plan. This chapter brings together these principles into the site and architectural design details of the community that help shape and define the Placer Vineyards community. These design details include the relationship of buildings to the street, setbacks, placement of garages, sidewalks, landscaping, building design, and the design of the public right-of-way (sidewalks, streets, paths, and bike lanes). Good site and architectural design, coupled with community amenities and transportation options enhance the pedestrian quality, attractiveness of living in a compact community, and facilitate walking or biking to work and to other destinations.



Purpose

In general, the standards and guidelines of the Specific Plan are intended to be consistent with adopted County goals and policies. This chapter of the Specific Plan establishes specific standards for the Plan Area that may be unique or different from the *Placer County Design Guidelines* and *Placer County Landscape Design Guidelines*. This chapter addresses the overall vision for Placer Vineyards and will serve to implement and direct development specific to the Placer Vineyards site.

Application of these standards and guidelines ensures that development that may occur over an extended period of time is high quality. The Placer Vineyards development will result in distinct neighborhoods and development areas with unique site and landscape characteristics. Different areas of the site will be united by a common network of streets, trails, and greenways; connected by common access to an extensive system of parks, open space, schools, employment, public facilities, and urban centers; and united by a townscape vocabulary achieved through the consistent treatment of common site and building design elements.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

The standards and guidelines in this chapter address the common design elements, the centers, and unique residential neighborhoods in Placer Vineyards. It is organized into the following sections:

6.2 Community-wide Design Elements

- 6.2.1 Landscape Design
- 6.2.2 Streetscapes
- 6.2.3 Community Gateways
- 6.2.4 Signage Systems
- 6.2.5 Lighting

6.3 Centers of Activity

- 6.3.1 Design of Activity Centers
- 6.3.2 Town Center
- 6.3.3 Village Centers
- 6.3.4 Commercial Centers
- 6.3.5 Base Line Road Regional Commercial Corridor
- 6.3.6 Neighborhood Commercial Centers

6.4 Residential Neighborhoods

- 6.4.1 General Lot Design Standards
- 6.4.2 Residential Design
- 6.4.3 Walls, Fences and Screening

The standards and guidelines in this chapter will be used to assist Planning staff, the Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors in evaluating the merit of development proposals. To aid in the interpretation of policies and guidelines in this chapter, the following rules apply:

- ♦ Policy statements and design standards express a County requirement and use the terms, “shall” or “must.”
- ♦ Design guidelines are qualitative and express a design intent through descriptions and illustrations, with flexibility for interpretation so long as the intent of the guidelines is upheld. Guideline statements use the words “should,” “may,” “encouraged,” and “discouraged.”
- ♦ Guideline statements using the words “encouraged” or “discouraged” are meant to express, respectively, a more or less desirable design solution.

- ♦ Guidelines that employ the word “should” are intended to express the County’s desire and expectation. An alternative measure or approach may be considered, however, if it meets or exceeds the intent of the design guideline. Guidelines that include “may” allow for flexibility and expresses that alternative measures or approaches can be used to satisfy the intent.

Should individual projects differ in some respects but stay substantially consistent with the intent of these design standards, minor deviations may be allowed. These determinations will be made at the discretion of the Planning Director or the Planning Commission. For design items that are specified in exhibits, text, and/or adopted goals and policies of the Specific Plan, modifications may require an amendment to the Specific Plan. Minor changes to an approved project that are consistent with original approvals may be approved by the Planning Director. Refer to Chapter IX, “Implementation,” for the administrative procedures to follow.

6.2 COMMUNITY-WIDE DESIGN ELEMENTS

This section outlines the goals and policies applicable to plan elements that are to be consistent across the entire Plan Area. For certain elements (i.e. parks, open space, streets) the text may also refer to design standards contained in other associated chapters of this Specific Plan.

6.2.1 LANDSCAPE DESIGN

The designed landscape creates the framework for common elements that knit the community together. These elements are intended to bring cohesiveness to the community, to engage the natural vegetation and topography of the site, to enhance the livability and identity of the community, and to provide transitions to adjacent sites and land uses.

- Goal 6.1** Provide a consistent and visually cohesive landscape throughout the Plan Area as well as provide identity to individual neighborhoods.
- Goal 6.2** Define and maintain a landscape and architectural style for the Plan Area.
- Goal 6.3** Provide for views from the road to community features such as creeks, wetlands, major tree groves, and other open space on the site.
- Goal 6.4** Put in place a designed landscape that utilizes a plant palette that is visually attractive, varied and either uses recycled or reclaimed water or minimizes water use.

Policy 6.1 Landscape Design and Landscape Master Plans.

In order to ensure the implementation of a cohesive image for the community, a detailed Landscape Master Plan shall be developed and approved by the County. This Master Plan shall address the design of streetscapes, entries, and other image features. The Landscape Master Plan and the Park and Recreation Master Plan (see Chapter 7, "Parks and Open Space") shall complement each other and together shall define the public landscape areas of the community. The Landscape Master Plan shall be guided by the following features:

1. *The landscape design treatment for Placer Vineyards shall consider the context, historical land use, and ecology of the region. Design elements consistent with the historic rural image of the area including use of stone, wood, timber arbors and trellises, and rural fencing types are encouraged.*
2. *Use landscape materials, trees, shrubs, and ground cover that are native to the area, have low water use, and fit into the local environmental conditions. Refer to Appendix B, "Recommended Plant List."*
3. *Use colorful ornamental landscaping as accents at entryways, at special park and open space areas, and as image elements in the overall landscape.*
4. *The streetscape designs described in the following sections of this chapter and the conceptual design figures that accompany them will be further refined and modified during the preparation of the Landscape Master Plan.*

Policy 6.2 View Protection.

Landscape elements shall be designed to create vistas and frame views of important community features, such as natural site features, significant buildings, or landmarks.

Policy 6.3 Natural Resource Preservation.

Where possible, open space areas shall interconnect with the oak woodlands, grasslands, wetlands, and other natural resources in the Plan Area.

Policy 6.4 Recommended Plant Palette.

Appendix B of this Specific Plan contains a list of plants recommended for use in Placer Vineyards. This list should be used when designing open space, landscape buffer corridors, streetscapes, gateways, and parks. Plants similar to those listed in the table may also be used, subject to County review and approval.

6.2.2 STREETSCAPES

The streetscape is one of the major visual elements that can help tie the community together in a consistent theme and quality of experience. Streetscape design is concerned with the design of the "public realm" or the area that stretches from the public streets to the building face. Streetscape design includes the selection of landscaping along the street and front yards and includes pedestrian amenities along the public right-of-way such as seating, lighting, and pedestrian furniture. Streetscape design guidelines apply to street corridors and along landscape buffers, medians, and gateways.

Trees are a major component of the streetscape design and livability of the Placer Vineyards community. Trees provide an attractive setting for walking and bicycle use, shade the sidewalks, street surface, and adjoining buildings; and improve the air quality and overall environment of the neighborhood. The streetscape design within the Plan Area is intended to provide a unified design and character for the project.

The guidelines presented in this section complement the roadway design standards found in Chapter V.

Goal 6.5 Create an attractive and inviting setting for the "public realm" that supports an active and vital mixed-use community. Features will include trees, shrubs, and ground cover planting, as well as trails, paths, monument signs, and other architectural amenities.

Goal 6.6 Design streetscapes along thoroughfares and arterials with a more spacious character to the public realm, consistent with the size and width of the street corridor, the volume and speed of traffic, and the amount and type of pedestrian activity on the street.

Goal 6.7 Create a continuous canopy of tree coverage throughout Placer Vineyards that establishes a strong and attractive community identity and provides shade.

Policy 6.5 Landscape Corridors on Major Streets.

Street landscape corridors will be developed along thoroughfares and arterials (i.e., Watt Avenue, Dyer Lane, and 16th Street; see Figures 6.1 and 6.2) and along major collector streets.

1. *These parkways are wide and heavily landscaped with double rows of street trees, ground cover, and flowering accent vegetation.*
2. *Walkways shall be designed as joint-use pedestrian and bicycle paths running through the parkway.*

3. *The streetscapes shall also provide linkages to neighboring open spaces, parks, schools, and major activity nodes, allowing for pedestrian and bicycle circulation as well as for other passive recreational and educational opportunities.*
4. *The corridors will have walks and trails separated from the streets. Landscaping will be expanded at entries to the development and blended in with the adjoining park sites and open space areas.*

Policy 6.6 Street Landscape Corridor Design.

Street landscape corridors shall be designed with different plant palettes to give a unique character to the streets. Landscaping along roadway corridors shall provide a unifying element to a neighborhood. Refer to Appendix B for a list of recommended streetscape trees, shrubs, vines, and ground covers, and Figures 6.1 through 6.2 for sample street corridor designs for Base Line Road and Watt Avenue.

1. *Thoroughfares: Base Line Road, Watt Avenue and Arterial Streets: Dyer Lane and 16th Street. Thoroughfares (see Figures 5.3-A, B) will have a 50-foot landscaped setback buffer and 20-foot median throughout the project area. Arterial streets (see Figure 5.3-D and E) will include a 35-foot landscape setback on both sides of the street and a 14-foot planted median. Landscape buffers will include earthen berms and plants, deciduous trees, evergreen trees, and drought-tolerant shrubs and ground covers. Berms and plants, such as 3-4-foot tall hedges, should be used to screen parking areas and/or sound walls.*

For thoroughfares and arterial streets, a row of trees for shade with drought-tolerant shrubs and ground covers will be planted in the road medians. Low drought-tolerant plants shall be installed as temporary landscaping in the future BRT right-of-way on Watt Avenue. Deciduous and evergreen canopy trees will be planted between curbs and sidewalks, with evergreen screen trees placed between sidewalks and residential walls. Landscaping shall provide for a consistent use of plant materials for the thoroughfares and each arterial street.

Unless recycled water is used for irrigation, irrigated turf will be limited to 25% of the total landscape corridor area. Turf areas will be limited to accent areas near intersections, project signage, buildings, and areas between the back of the curb and sidewalks.

2. *Major Collector Streets: Palladay Road, Tanwood Avenue, 14th Street. Select collector streets, as shown in Figure 5.3, Section F, will be landscaped with a 20-foot landscape setback area. A single, large deciduous canopy tree or other thematic landscape combination should be established per street. The same tree or repetition of trees will be planted within landscaped areas on both sides of the street at regular intervals for the entire road segment. In addition, other planting will consist of drought-tolerant ground covers, vines, and shrubs to screen walls or fences that abut the collector street landscape areas.*
3. *Minor Collector Streets and Local Streets. Local streets will be landscaped with a single, large deciduous canopy tree planted at regular intervals (at approximately 25-30-foot intervals or at a distance that provides appropriate spacing for the type of tree selected) on both sides of the street for the entire length of the road. In addition, other planting will consist of ground covers, vines, and shrubs to screen walls that “side-on” to local streets (see Figure 5.3, Sections G, H, R1 through R3, R5, and R6 for typical street cross sections).*
4. *Residential Alleys. All unpaved alley setback areas shall be landscaped.*

Policy 6.7 Street Tree Design.

Street tree planting throughout Placer Vineyards will vary depending on the type and size of each street and the desired character of the individual neighborhoods. Street tree conditions will serve as visual screens and buffers from development.

1. *In general, street trees shall be planted at regular intervals (approximately 25-30 feet apart), depending on the type of tree selected, to create a shaded canopy along the pedestrian travel way (see Appendix B for a recommended plant palette).*
2. *Street tree planting shall also be modified to incorporate existing trees and native oaks, when possible.*
3. *Street trees along major roadways shall be larger, scaled in relation to the street corridor and automobile travelers. Along thoroughfare and arterial streets, the dominant tree specified will be used 70% of the time.*
4. *Neighborhood streets shall be designed to include one row of large deciduous canopy trees.*

Figure 6.1 Conceptual Base Line Road Landscape Corridor

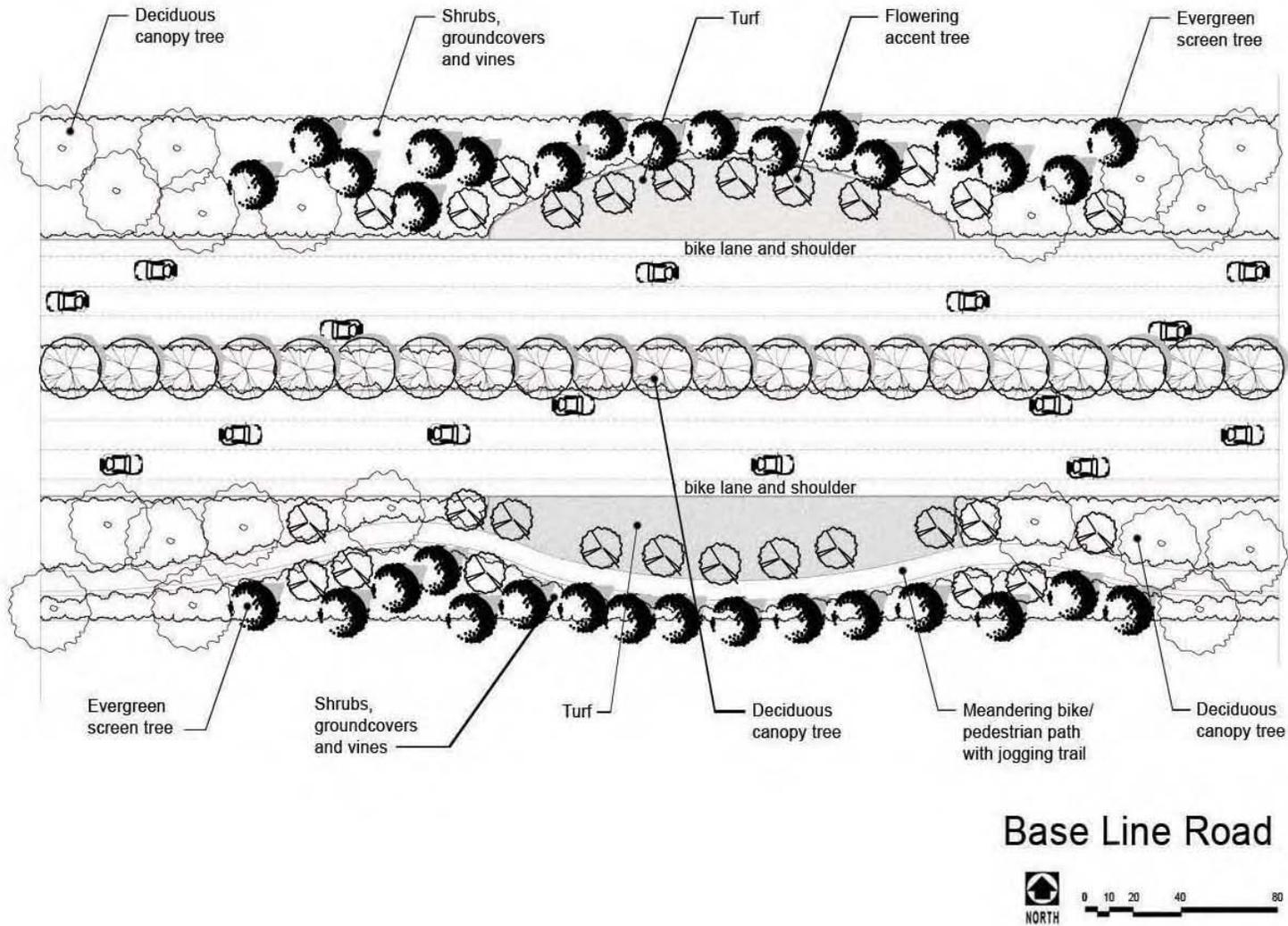
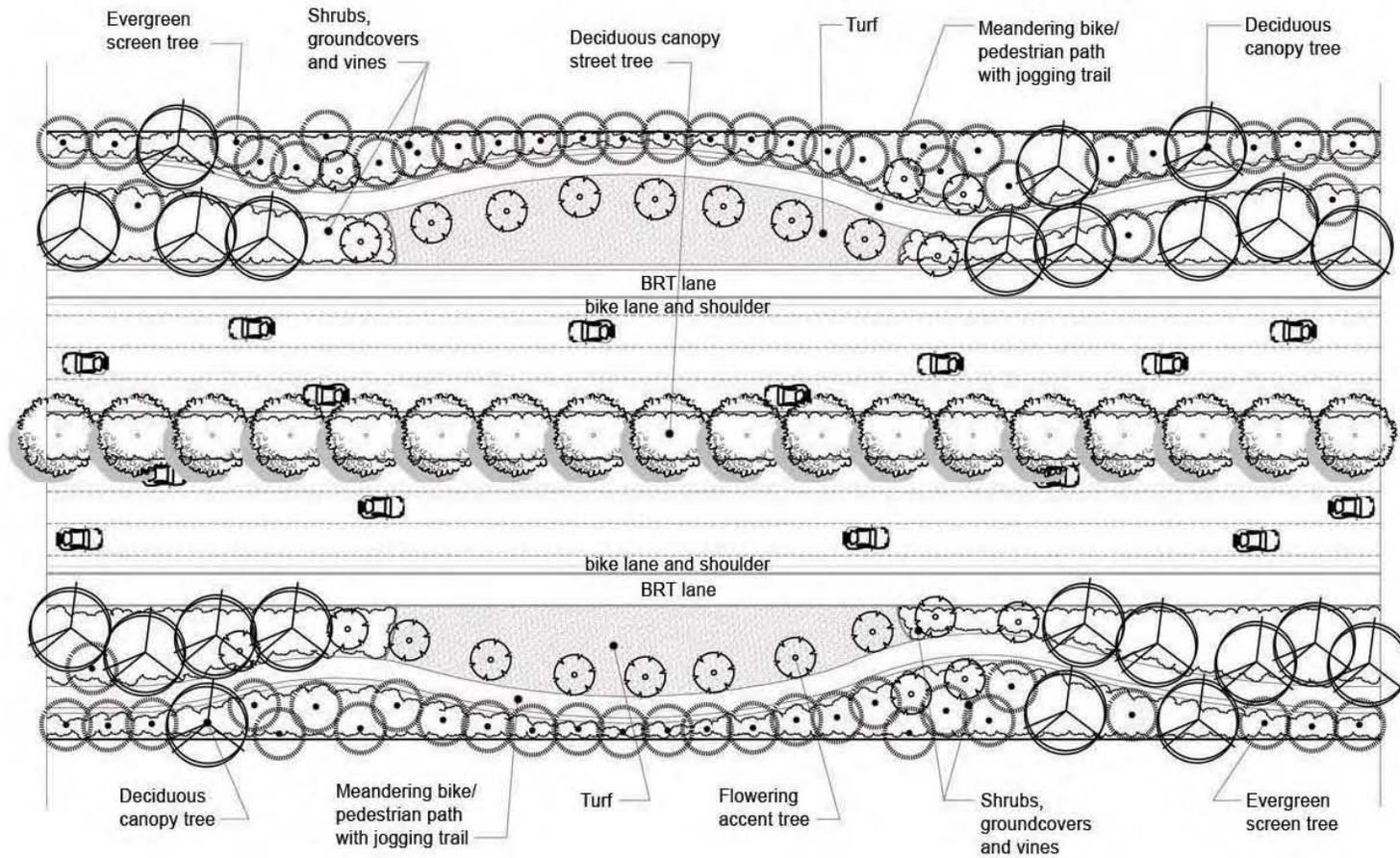
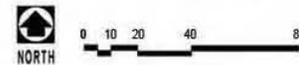


Figure 6.2 Conceptual Watt Avenue Landscape Corridor



Watt Avenue



Street Tree Design Guidelines

1. The size and spacing of street trees can help identify the street classification and function. In general, thoroughfares and arterials should be landscaped with larger canopy street trees and spaced accordingly. Collectors should be planted with different, smaller tree species, and local neighborhood street trees should be planted with yet another tree type.
2. Deciduous canopy trees and low ground cover should be placed in landscaped areas between the curb and sidewalk, while evergreen trees, shrubs, and vines should be located in landscaped areas between the sidewalk and walls or buildings. Trees should be planted with sufficient spacing to create full coverage and to allow for mature growth.
3. Street tree selection and plant locations should vary along the major thoroughfares, such as Watt Avenue and Dyer Lane, to create a naturalistic feel to the street corridors.
4. Tree selection should reflect the unique character of each neighborhood or street. Trees should be planted to ensure the spatial continuity of the street. Street trees should provide a large canopy with shape as well as color, variety, and accent.
5. Accent trees with color and seasonal flowering should be planted in clusters that exhibit interest and highlight intersections, entry points, or important destinations.
6. Street tree selection should reflect the environmental characteristics of the region. Low maintenance and drought-tolerant species are recommended.
7. Selected street trees species should have the ability to thrive in urban conditions where tree roots are often impacted by sidewalks and other obstacles such as underground utility lines and vaults.

Sidewalk and Street-Side Trail Design Guidelines

General guidelines for sidewalks and trails along major streets include:

1. Highly visible and lighted crosswalks should be located at all major intersections. Alternative surface materials are encouraged at crosswalks;
2. Sidewalks should have a minimum clear path of 5 feet in Placer Vineyards for pedestrian and wheelchair access;
3. Streetscape elements such as seating, benches, bike racks, signage, fire hydrants, news racks, bus shelters, lighting, planters, trees, and utility poles and boxes should be located in landscape lots or sidewalks. It is desirable to combine these elements when feasible;
4. Privately maintained areas adjacent to sidewalks should enhance the public space. Materials used for walls, fences, and pavement should be coordinated with and complement the streetscape design; and
5. Streetscape elements and paving materials should be of high quality to minimize maintenance. The quality of material and surface pattern contributes to the pedestrian experience.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

6.2.3 COMMUNITY GATEWAYS

The gateways into the community help define separate and distinct areas of the project, while providing for a sense of arrival. Placer Vineyards is designed with a series of community and neighborhood entry points. The entryway concept provides a hierarchy of entryway experiences and, when coordinated with the street system, will help orient visitors and community residents to the site. Entryway designs should complement the overall image and style of Placer Vineyards community, and will be further defined in the *Landscape Master Plan*. Placer Vineyards will incorporate primary entries at major arterials throughout the project and minor entry points at other streets (see Figure 6.4).

Goal 6.8 Create attractive gateway features that help establish a distinct identity for the Placer Vineyards community and its neighborhoods and helps orient visitors to the site.

Goal 6.9 Use a consistent application of elements such as landscaping, signage, fencing, and lighting at key entrances to the community.

Policy 6.8 *Community Gateway Signage.*

Community gateway signage will consist of monument signs set in medians or on one or both sides of the street. These monument signs shall be located outside the right-of-way when they are proposed along the sides of streets and may be incorporated into walls or other architectural features to emphasize the transition. A complete signage program design for Placer Vineyards will be developed as a part of the Landscape Master Plan (see Policy 6.1).

Policy 6.9 *Minor Entries.*

Minor entries shall be located outside the right-of-way at intersections to the internal street system to identify and mark the transition into residential neighborhoods in Placer Vineyards. Entries are small-scale landscape or architectural features, signs, or monuments at the street corners that may include special lighting, flowering plants, or public art. These features are smaller in scale than community entries and serve as landmarks that give special identity and character to each residential neighborhood or block.

Policy 6.10 *Community Gateway Theme.*

All entries shall include thematic architectural or landscape design elements that incorporate a special landmark feature or public art to identity destinations in the community, representative of the Placer Vineyards character. Public art shall be subject to Design/Site Review approval.

Policy 6.11 *Northern Community Gateways and Entries.*

The primary northern entries will be provided on Base Line Road at Dyer Lane, 16th Street, Watt Avenue, and East Dyer Lane. Minor entries will be located at other additional collector roadways intersecting Base Line Road, as indicated in Figure 6.3.

Policy 6.12 *Southern Community Gateways and Entries.*

South of the project site, primary entries will be located along the Sacramento/Placer County Line at 16th Street, Tamwood Avenue, and at Watt Avenue where it intersects with Dry Creek (see Figure 6.3).

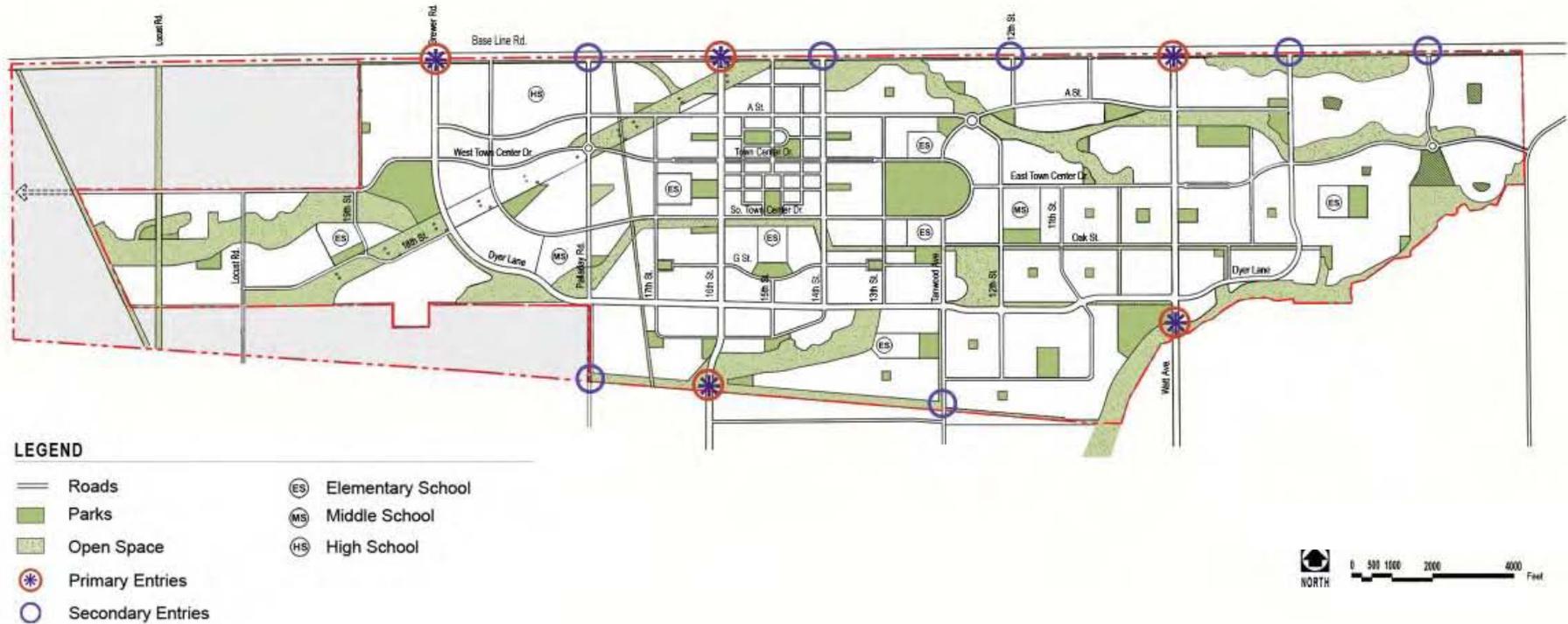
Policy 6.13 *Lighting of Entryway Signs.*

Lighting of entry signs shall consist of either indirect lighting with the light source at ground level or internal halo-type lighting. In both cases, the lighting source shall not be visible from traveled roadways.



Entries may be identified using landmark features or public art

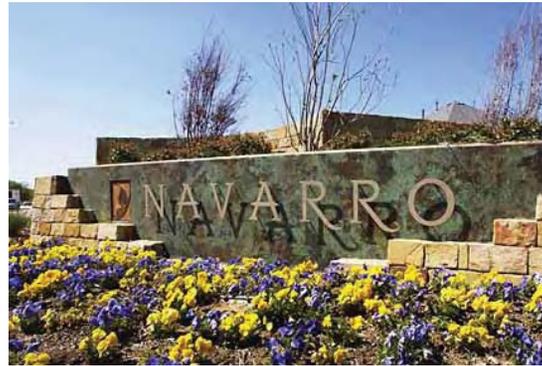
Figure 6.3 Community Gateway Site Location Diagram



COMMUNITY DESIGN

Design Guidelines for Community Gateways and Entries

1. Entries should be designed to represent the character of Placer Vineyards.
2. Entries should be treated with similar materials, colors, and forms.
3. Entries should be designed to highlight the transition into Placer Vineyards with taller vertical elements.
4. Entry walls should be designed as low-profile monument signs.
5. The ground plane entering into the Placer Vineyards neighborhood core should be highlighted from the street with colored and textured paving.
6. Landscape materials, oak trees, and other planting should be formal groupings, to reinforce the signage and entryway features.
7. Landscaping should be carefully placed to avoid obscuring signage.
8. Up-lights and halo-lit signs and monuments should be integrated into entryway features.
9. Primary entry signs are not intended to be used for individual business advertisement.
10. Entry signs will be designed not to interfere with vehicle sight distances.



Community Gateway monument sign design



Use ground cover, shrubs and other plants to integrate monument signs into the overall site landscape



Minor entryway sign used to identify a residential neighborhood or district

Design Guidelines for Minor Entries

1. Minor entries should be designed with a consistent visual theme using similar materials, landscaping, lighting, and architectural forms.
2. The minor entries should be incorporated into the landscape areas outside the street rights-of-way. Features may include landscaping, signage, lighting, decorative walls, and other architectural forms that provide transition.
3. Designs should incorporate pedestrian streetscape elements and landscape materials that represent the area's urban, mixed-use character.
4. Surface textures and colored paving materials may be incorporated into the ground surface.
5. At the entry into mixed-use areas, land uses and building corners should exhibit a more active and pedestrian retail environment. Within the town center and commercial areas, entries should incorporate larger building setbacks, corner entry plazas, and storefront windows and doorways.
6. Minor entry signs should be designed to be low-profile, monument-type signs that do not interfere with vehicle sight distance.
7. Minor entry signs are not intended to be used for individual business advertisement.

6.2.4 SIGNAGE SYSTEMS

Signs and landmark features located throughout the Plan Area will help to establish a coordinated and consistent quality, character, and image for Placer Vineyards and aid residents and visitors in navigating through the community.

The intent of creating a system of permanent signs is to convey information regarding the names of streets, neighborhoods, particular locations, and community facilities. Permanent signs include community entry signs and features, neighborhood signs and entry landmarks, street signs, directional signs, and business identification signs. The complete signage program design for Placer Vineyards is not addressed in this Specific Plan but will be developed for review and approval by Placer County separately in more detail at a later date.

Goal 6.10 Create a coordinated and consistent quality of signage for the Placer Vineyards community.

Policy 6.14 General Sign Requirements.

All signage shall be subject to the approval of a sign permit by the Placer County Planning Department and shall conform with the sign standards of the Placer County Zoning Ordinance (see Sections 17.54.170 through 17.54.200), unless this is superseded by the adoption of a separate signage program for Placer Vineyards.

6.2.5 LIGHTING

Lighting throughout the Plan Area is an integral part of the overall community image and character. In addition to reinforcing the character of the town center, village centers, parks, and the streetscape, lighting helps to increase the safety and security of residents and users. The lighting design for Placer Vineyards is guided by the following goals and policies.

Goal 6.11 Provide sufficient lighting to increase the safety and security of residents and visitors to Placer Vineyards on its streets, parks, and pedestrian pathways. Provide lighting that is attractive and compatible with other design features in the community.

Goal 6.12 Maintain the spirit and intent of the Dark Skies standards (the ability to view the night sky) by protecting against glare and excess lighting; providing safe roadways for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians; and promoting efficient and cost-effective lighting.

Policy 6.15 General Lighting Requirements.

Lighting shall be designed and located to meet minimum, necessary ambient light levels for any given location consistent with public safety standards.

1. *Lighting shall occur at intersections, areas of major pedestrian activity, and building entries, and generally shall be minimized elsewhere.*
2. *Street lighting shall be directed and regularly spaced, and shall project light down to the road surface and away from the building.*
3. *Decorative pedestrian-scaled lighting fixtures shall be used in the town center, village centers, commercial centers, parks, and other major pedestrian activity areas.*
4. *The selection and design of lighting fixtures shall minimize glare and excess spillage onto neighboring properties. All street lights shall utilize cut-off fixtures to minimize visibility from adjacent areas of the community and public use areas.*

5. *No lighting shall blink, flash, or be of unusually high intensity or brightness.*
6. *Lighting fixtures shall be energy efficient and provide a balance between energy efficiency and pleasing light color and coverage. Avoid low-pressure sodium fixtures. Acceptable light sources include mercury vapor, metal halide, and similar sources.*

Policy 6.16 Street Lights.

Street lights on Base Line Road and Watt Avenue shall be simple cobra-head light fixtures, located particularly at major intersections. Street lights for collectors and local streets should be decorative fixtures that are compatible with character of the Placer Vineyards streetscape. The selection of street lights for Placer Vineyards will be addressed in the Landscape Master Plan.

1. **Color:** *The color of street light poles and fixtures shall be consistent throughout the community. All specified metals shall utilize anodized coatings, rather than painted colors.*
2. **Materials:** *Street light poles shall be either metal or wood fixtures.*



Cobra-head street lights shown in the background

COMMUNITY DESIGN

3. **Town Center:** Street lighting in the town center shall consist of ornamental street lights flanking the roadways. Street lights shall be located in parallel pairs along the length of the street, spaced to provide illumination levels of 0.5 footcandle, and shall not exceed 14 feet in height.
4. **Village Centers:** Village centers shall use a design in the same design family as the ornamental street lights in the town center, however, each village center shall utilize a light fixture designed to give the center a unique character and identity.
5. **Base Line Road and Watt Avenue:** Street lights on Base Line Road and Watt Avenue shall be simple, single- or double-arm, cobra-head lights, spaced as required to maintain illumination levels of 1.75 footcandle, and shall not exceed 40 feet in height.
6. **Arterial Streets:** Street lights on arterial streets shall be selected decorative fixtures, spaced, as required, to maintain illumination levels of 1.0 footcandle on alternating sides of the street, and shall not exceed 25 feet in height.
7. **Collector and Local Residential Streets:** Street lighting on collector and local streets in residential neighborhoods shall be ornamental or decorative street light fixtures, spaced, as required, to maintain illumination levels of 0.5 footcandle on alternating sides of the street, and shall not exceed 14 feet in height.
8. **Neighborhood Entries:** Street lights at neighborhood entries shall consist of ornamental or decorative fixtures flanking the roadway, located in pairs, and shall not exceed 14 feet in height.



Ornamental streetlights in the town center



Banners on decorative, arterial streetlights



Residential streetlight



Streetlights and bollard lights along a pedestrian path.

Policy 6.17 Pedestrian Oriented Lighting.

Pedestrian oriented lighting will be provided within the town center, village centers, commercial centers, parks, and major pedestrian activity areas. Pedestrian lighting shall consist of smaller pole fixtures, spaced to maintain illumination levels of 0.5 footcandle, and shall not exceed 14 feet in height.

Design Guidelines for Pedestrian Oriented Lighting

1. Bollard light fixtures are also recommended along pedestrian paths of travel as an alternative to pole-mounted light fixtures.
2. With the exception of sports lighting, wood poles are recommended in parks and open spaces and along major pedestrian paths, in keeping with the more rural and rustic theme for Placer Vineyards.
3. Specialized pedestrian lighting should be used to distinguish differences in individual neighborhoods and areas within Placer Vineyards.
4. Pedestrian lighting should be incorporated into the landscape design along major pedestrian paths of travel at appropriate intervals to provide lighted coverage.
5. Bus shelters, telephone kiosks, and other site furnishings should be adequately lighted for security and functionality. Light sources shall be included in the structure of the furnishings.
6. Pedestrian lighting should be durable and easily maintained and of sufficient intensity to provide lighting without spilling over onto road rights-of-ways and adjoining properties, or conflicting with street lighting.

Policy 6.18 Recreation Areas and Athletic Facilities.

Lighting for athletic fields and court facilities shall be designed to minimize illumination and spillage onto neighboring uses and residential areas. Athletic facility lighting shall be provided only in the two community park facilities and the town center recreation center. Mercury vapor or metal halide lamps, mounted 30-50-foot high, are recommended.

Policy 6.19 Public Parking Lot Lighting.

Parking lot lights shall be no higher than necessary to provide efficient lighting of the parking areas and shall not exceed 25 feet in height for larger parking lots, including the base. Illumination levels shall be maintained at 1.0 footcandle. Spacing between light poles shall be determined by the required level of illumination.

1. The fixture design style and colors shall be compatible with the architectural design of the site.
2. Within the town center and village centers, the design and color of parking lot light fixtures, shall be consistent with the design of street lights.

Policy 6.20 Landscape Lighting.

Landscape lighting shall be limited to important landscape areas, entryway features, signage, or pedestrian areas.

1. The design of landscape light fixtures shall be hidden from direct view unless designed as an integral part of the area's design.
2. The light source shall be shielded from direct view at night, with the emphasis on the object or area being lighted. Up-lighting and

mood lighting in trees and landscaping can be effective design feature for special entries, signs, water features, and landmarks.

3. Landscape light fixtures shall be durable and easily maintained. For ease of maintenance, landscape light fixture types and lamps shall be consistent with landscape design and street lighting for each neighborhood.



Parking lot lighting design examples



Bollard light fixture integrated into site landscaping

Policy 6.21 Service Areas and Security Lighting.

Lighting in services areas shall be designed to avoid spillover onto adjacent properties and activity areas, and shielded from direct view of the light source at night.

1. Building-mounted flood light fixtures shall not be used unless the light source is completely shielded from public view.
2. Low-pressure sodium fixtures or other lighting types that contrast excessively with lighting in the surrounding use area shall be avoided unless completely shielded from public view. Mercury vapor, metal halide, and similar fixture types are permitted.

Policy 6.22 Building Identification and Street Number Lighting.

Lighting of building identification and street numbers on buildings shall be used to help locate buildings during evening hours.

1. Lighting of street identification or numbers shall be internally lit, back lit, or externally lit. External spot lighting is preferred.
2. Street number lighting shall be subdued and not contrast excessively with the surrounding area lighting.
3. Numbers and lighting shall be conveniently placed near the building entry and shall be visible from the street and adjoining parking lots.
4. Buildings placed back from and not visible from the street may use freestanding lighted monuments or small pedestrian pole lights with mounted street numbers to identify the street address of the buildings from the street.

6.3 ACTIVITY CENTERS

The centers of activity are the community gathering places that are specially designed to serve the Placer Vineyards community. See Figure 6.4 for the location of activity centers. Activity centers include the town center (see Section 6.3.3), the village centers (see Section 6.3.4), the regional commercial centers along Base Line Road (see Section 6.3.5), and the neighborhood commercial centers (see Section 6.3.6).

Special treatment is given to the design of these mixed-use neighborhood sites, with emphasis placed on creating a safe and pedestrian friendly setting with easy and convenient access by multiple means of transit. Commercial and other non-residential properties located within the centers of activity shall require Design/Site Review. All buildings and improvements proposed within the activity centers are subject to approval of a Design/Site Review agreement as outlined in Section 7.52.070 of the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance* and to Appendix A, "Land Use and Development Standards."

6.3.1 GENERAL GOALS AND POLICIES FOR ACTIVITY CENTERS

- Goal 6.13** Design for a variety of activity centers that serve their respective functions and add value to the communities where they exist through the provision of jobs, services, and economic activity.
- Goal 6.14** Provide a range of housing close to commercial centers with paths that connect them.
- Goal 6.15** Create attractive and comfortable outdoor, pedestrian activity areas that are adjacent to buildings, entries, and along major commercial streets.

Policy 6.23 Pedestrian Orientation.

Design elements that accommodate pedestrians and cyclists shall be equally treated or take precedence over elements that primarily accommodate automobiles, especially in the town center, village centers, neighborhood centers and access areas leading into parks, schools and other public facilities. Retail centers and commercial areas shall be designed to provide maximum pedestrian accessibility.

Policy 6.24 Density within Centers of Activity.

The town center, village centers, and Base Line Road commercial corridor should be established at sufficient densities to support express bus transit from Placer Vineyards and other neighborhood areas in the region.

- Goal 6.16** Design parking areas that are in scale with and are visually subordinate to the developments they serve.

Policy 6.25 Parking Lot Shading.

New parking lots serving non-residential developments shall include tree planting designed to result in 50% shading of parking lot surface areas within 15 years. These shading requirements shall apply to all impervious surfaces on which a vehicle can drive including parking stalls, drives, and maneuvering areas within the property. Until such a time that Placer County adopts a Parking Lot Shading Ordinance, the County shall use the City of Sacramento Parking Lot Tree Shading Design and Maintenance Guidelines, June 17, 2003 edition to implement these requirements.

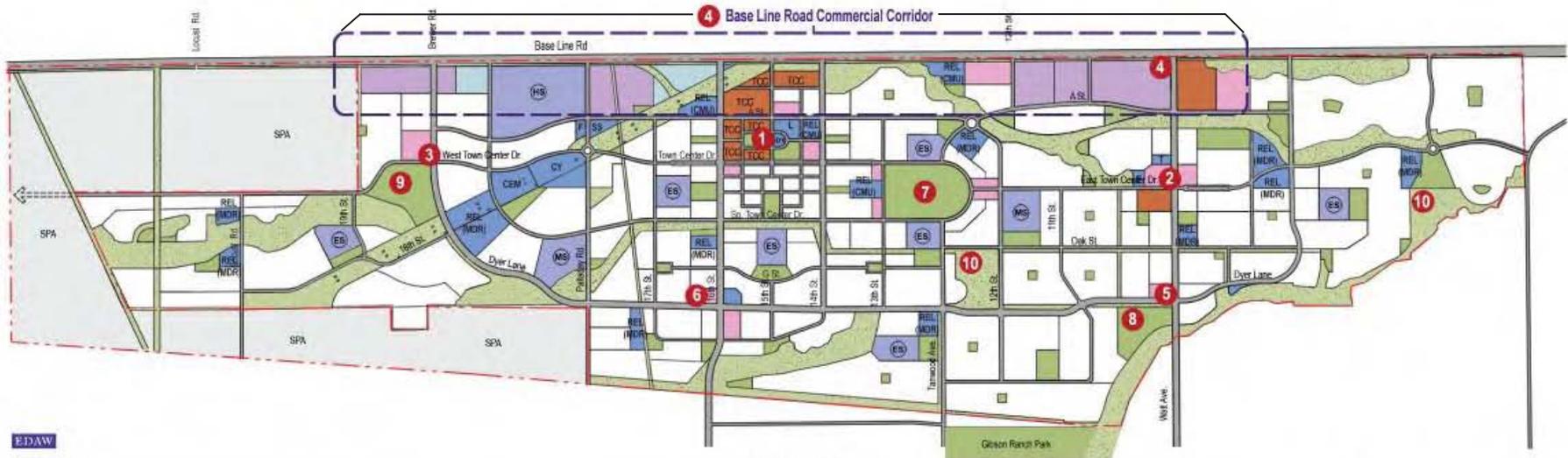
- Goal 6.17** Design buildings whose architectural character contributes to the vitality and attractiveness of the districts, neighborhoods, shopping centers, and work places in the community.

- Goal 6.18** The heights of buildings shall be related and proportional to the activities and surrounding context in which they are located.

Policy 6.26 Building Heights.

Taller buildings will be located along the major commercial nodes, at the town center and within the office and commercial areas along Base Line Road. Lower story buildings and less intense development will be located adjacent to existing neighborhoods in the Special Planning Area to provide appropriate transitions to more intense development at the center and along the major transportation corridors in the Plan Area.

Figure 6.4 Activity Centers Site Diagram



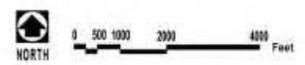
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LEGEND

Commercial Corridor	Elementary School	Government/Sheriff
Roads	Middle School	Library
Commercial	High School	Religious Site
Power Center	Cemetery	Substation
Business Park	Corporation Yard	Transit Center
Commercial Mixed Use	Office	Fire Station
Town Center Commercial		

Activity Centers

- 1 Town Center
- 2 East Village Center
- 3 West Village Center
- 4 Baseline Commercial Corridor (with Power Center)
- 5 Neighborhood Commercial #1
- 6 Neighborhood Commercial #2
- 7 Central Community Park
- 8 East Community Park
- 9 West Community Park
- 10 Oak Park



COMMUNITY DESIGN

6.3.2 GENERAL DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVITY CENTERS

PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED SITE DESIGN GUIDELINES

The overall site design should be organized to encourage pedestrian use and activity.

1. Ground-floor commercial buildings should be oriented to plazas, parks, and pedestrian-oriented spaces and streets rather than to interior blocks or parking lots.
2. Street-level windows and numerous building entries, including arcades, porches, bays, and balconies are encouraged.
3. Walls of commercial establishments without an entry or a pedestrian route shall include windows and display areas, or should be lined with retail shops to provide visual interest to pedestrians.
4. Entries to small shops and offices should be sited to directly open onto a pedestrian-oriented street. Buildings with multiple retail tenants should have numerous street entries.
5. Commercial centers should be designed to include pedestrian connections to surrounding neighborhoods.
6. Transit stops, where provided, should be conveniently located within each center and designed as an integral part of the site. Bus transit stops should include amenities that create an attractive and comfortable environment for transit users.



Stores oriented around a public plaza create a setting for pedestrian activity.



Street-level windows, architectural details and furniture provide interest along the street.



Transit stop designed for comfort and convenient access

BUILDING DESIGN GUIDELINES

Development should be designed to provide varied and interesting building façades and provide variety without creating a chaotic image. Facades should vary from one building to the next to avoid an overly unified frontage. Continuous covered walkways should be provided whenever possible.

Architectural Details

Provide architectural detailing that gives buildings human scale, visual interest, and distinctiveness through the following:

1. Use a variety of architectural elements such as arcades, recessed exterior balconies, changes in the façade treatment, window awnings, canopies, and other building elements that create visual interest through light and shadow.
2. Use special architectural features to accentuate building entries.
3. Avoid large blank walls at the building base along pedestrian walkways and entries. The building base should be articulated with changes in materials, color, and finishes, window and door patterns, and use of special building entrance features.
4. Coordinate the design of exterior elevations, roofs, and details to create a consistent overall design pattern within a buildings and development site.
5. Articulate wall and window surface places with setbacks, recesses, trim, reveals, or other design detail to add visual interest, scale, and changes in light and shadow to building façades.

6. Screen all utility boxes and rooftop equipment to provide attractive views on the street or from adjacent taller buildings. Avoid use of chain-link fences as rooftop screening.
7. Use high-quality finishes and materials that contribute to creating a unified building character and ensure a consistent design quality, particularly on surfaces adjacent to pedestrian spaces.



Architectural treatments at the corner define the entry area.



Walls and window surfaces articulated with recesses, trims, reveals and signage.

Build-to-Line

The build-to-line establishes a minimum percentage of building space (retail uses, public uses, or active spaces) facing the street with a minimum percentage of windows, doorways, and entry spaces facing onto the sidewalk. Activity spaces opening onto the street, enhance the pedestrian character of the street, provide for visual surveillance into the public realm, and increase the safety and security of the area.

The “Town Center” section of this chapter establishes a set of build-to-lines and their requirements for the town center. Commercial/ Mixed-Use sites in the village centers and neighborhood centers should also establish build-to-lines.

Materials

Materials used should reflect the style and overall character of buildings. Permanent, long-lasting, low-maintenance building materials are encouraged. These may include stone, stucco, brick, high-quality wood products, steel panel, or flange steel.

Use of Color

Colors should be used to bring together materials used in the design of the site and can complement the building architecture. Colors should be used to give distinct character to different buildings and different tenants within large building complexes.

Cornices

When used, cornices should have contrasting colors and materials to the wall surface areas next to them.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

Roofs Forms:

Roof form should be used to identify and articulate different buildings and distinguish different tenants within a larger building complex.

Towers

Tower elements may be incorporated into building designs to create identity when appropriate to the building aesthetic. They can provide a change in scale at the street corners or be sited in between buildings to provide focal points and transitions between spaces or buildings in a multi-tenant complex. Tower elements should be used sparingly and not conflict with the rhythm of vertical elements on the block.

Windows

The shape, size, and placement of windows are major design elements that help establish the style and character of a building's design. Windows, located at the ground floor, along major pedestrian commercial streets, should be large display windows that have a transparent quality, connecting the activities within to the pedestrian experience outside. On upper floors, window design elements such as shutters, canopies, recesses, and other elements should be used to add variety to the building design fronting the street.

Canopies, Awnings, and Arcades

Canopies, awnings, and arcades should be used along pedestrian streets to add an additional layer of variety, depth, and interest to building façades. Canopies, awnings, and arcades help identify and articulate major entries, cast shadows on the building façades, and may be used to carry additional signage.



Varied roof heights, tower elements, and arcades help differentiate tenants within a larger building complex.



Variation in the placement of windows, entries, arcades and awnings help articulate the building facade.

Signage

Signs should be designed as an extension of the architecture of a building or site and should complement the building or site materials, colors and rhythm of walls, windows, parapets, and other architectural design features. Signage should provide information and identification of shops and tenants, should not be used as advertisement, and are subject to the standards in Policy 6.14 and the standards and requirements of Section 17.54.170 of the *Placer County Zoning Ordinance*. Refer to Section 6.2.4 for signage design guidelines.

Wall signs located on multi-tenant centers shall be designed to be compatible with each other through the coordination of sign type, size, placement, illumination, color, and/or font.

Lighting

Refer to Section 6.2.5 for lighting design guidelines.



Signage should be designed as an extension of the architecture of a building or site.

CIRCULATION AND PARKING DESIGN GUIDELINES

Centers should be designed with internal circulation systems that allow for easy, efficient, and safe, slow speed vehicular movement with well-defined pedestrian and bicycle paths.

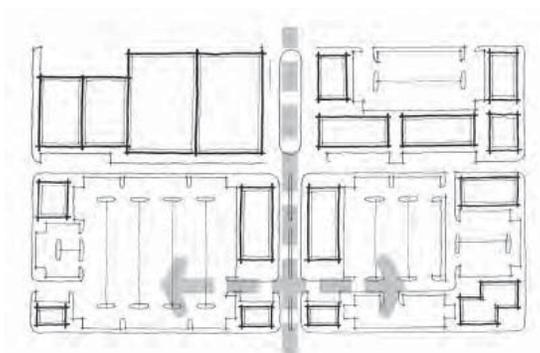
1. Parking areas should be designed with separate vehicular and pedestrian circulation paths and include traffic calming design features. Alternative surface materials are encouraged to differentiate pedestrian circulation paths.
2. On-site pedestrian amenities and bicycle parking should be provided at convenient locations to site destinations with direct, safe, and convenient access to adjoining path and trail systems.
3. Off-street parking should be located at the rear of buildings with separated walkways leading to the street and entryways.
4. Dispersion of parking into smaller units is encouraged.
5. Parking lots of commercial centers and public use areas should contain landscaped areas with large shade trees of sufficient size and shading to surrounding parking spaces (see Policy 6.25).
6. Shared parking arrangements and driveway access between adjoining commercial and office projects are encouraged. Parking standards may be relaxed to facilitate shared parking (see Policy 3.21 for parking reductions in Commercial/Mixed-use sites).



Parking areas should provide clearly defined pedestrian access, separated from vehicular traffic.



Place bicycle facilities, seating, and other pedestrian amenities convenient to public destinations.



Shared parking arrangements and driveways between adjoining commercial and office projects is encouraged.

7. Park and ride lots are provided primarily in the transit center and town center. Other commercial sites are also encouraged to provide smaller park and ride lots as a shared parking use incorporated into the overall parking design.
8. Service areas and loading functions should be integrated into the circulation pattern to minimize conflicts with vehicles and pedestrians. Service areas should be screened from public view with fencing, walls, and landscaping, or a combination of these elements.



Screen service area and mechanical equipment with landscaping, walls, or a combination of these.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

6.3.3 TOWN CENTER

The Placer Vineyards town center is located in the “heart” of the community, just south of Base Line Road from 16th Street, extending east to 14th Street. The town center provides a “traditional” small-town core and acts as the community focal point for Placer Vineyards. The urban design vision for the town center is focused on a traditional grid street pattern, organized around a town green. The town center is intended to be pedestrian in scale with large tree-shaded streets and retail and civic uses oriented to the street.

The town center is designed as a pedestrian-friendly streetscape environment with buildings located behind wide sidewalks. This streetscape environment allows outdoor eating, display areas, and public art exhibits and features angled street parking for easy access to local shops and stores. Shared parking areas are located within the middle of each block with buildings oriented toward the street and the town green.

Goal 6.19 Create a mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly town center, including residential developments that are higher density and mixed-use; loft spaces; professional offices; traditional retail stores, neighborhood-serving retail, and services; entertainment uses, such as movie theaters and live entertainment venues, restaurants, and cafes; and a range of public uses, including a community recreation center, library, and civic buildings for government offices, community meetings, and public gatherings.

Policy 6.27 Town Center Design.

The town center shall be designed to serve as the public, institutional, and social focal point for the community. The town center will contain:

- ◆ *A recreation center with meeting facility (Refer to Chapter VII, “Parks and Open Space” for a conceptual diagram for the recreation center),*
- ◆ *A centrally located government center and sheriff station that anchors and serves as a visual landmark for the town green,*
- ◆ *A library, and*
- ◆ *A religious site.*

Policy 6.28 Town Center Design Standards.

Within the town center, the following standards shall apply. Refer also to Appendix A, Section 3.3 for Town Center Commercial development standards.

1. *At least 70% of the frontage at a build-to-line shall be occupied by a building with the façade placed at the back of the sidewalk (see Figure 6.6, “Town Center Design Framework” for the location of build-to-lines for the town center).*
2. *At least 70% of the façade of the first floor of all buildings in the town center on the blocks with build-to-lines shall have transparent storefront glass, windows, entries, doorways or other active spaces fronting onto the public streets and sidewalks.*
3. *Buildings in the town center shall be a minimum of 25 feet in height.*

Policy 6.29 Town Center Sidewalk Design.

Sidewalk designs shall be guided by Figures 6.8 through 6.11 and the following:

1. *Any sidewalk that fronts on to commercial development shall maintain a minimum 6-foot wide clearance for pedestrian traffic.*
2. *All sidewalks shown in street section T2 shall be a minimum of 16’ in width. Sidewalks shown in street section T3 shall be a minimum of 12’ in width. All other sidewalks shall be guided by widths shown in the appropriate street sections.*
3. *Sidewalks at outdoor eating areas shall be a minimum of 16’ in width unless buildings are designed to inset a portion of the outdoor eating area onto the commercial development site.*
4. *The width of sidewalks as part of the overall Town Center design will be reviewed during the Design/Site Review process.*

Policy 6.30 Parking in the Town Center.

The following parking standards apply to the town center (refer also to Appendix A, Section VI: "Parking Standards"):

- 1. For mixed-use projects, parking may be shared between uses, as defined in Policy 3.21.*
- 2. Within the town center, all on-street parking will be used in the calculation of parking requirements for all land uses. Calculation of on-street parking includes all parallel parking and diagonal parking along the subject parcel boundaries.*
- 3. Off-street common parking areas shall be located in the middle of most blocks where feasible. Reciprocal access and use agreements shall be recorded between property owners of the businesses that use the parking facility.*
- 4. Off-street parking lots shall be screened with shrubs, trees, landscaped berms, and low fences, walls, or other landscape design elements.*
- 5. Parking structures, if required or desired, shall be architecturally incorporated into the design of surrounding buildings and landscaping in the town center.*
- 6. Parking structures facing onto the retail streets shall incorporate ground-floor retail uses along the street.*

Figure 6.5 Town Center Illustrative Site Plan



Figure 6.6 Town Center Design Framework

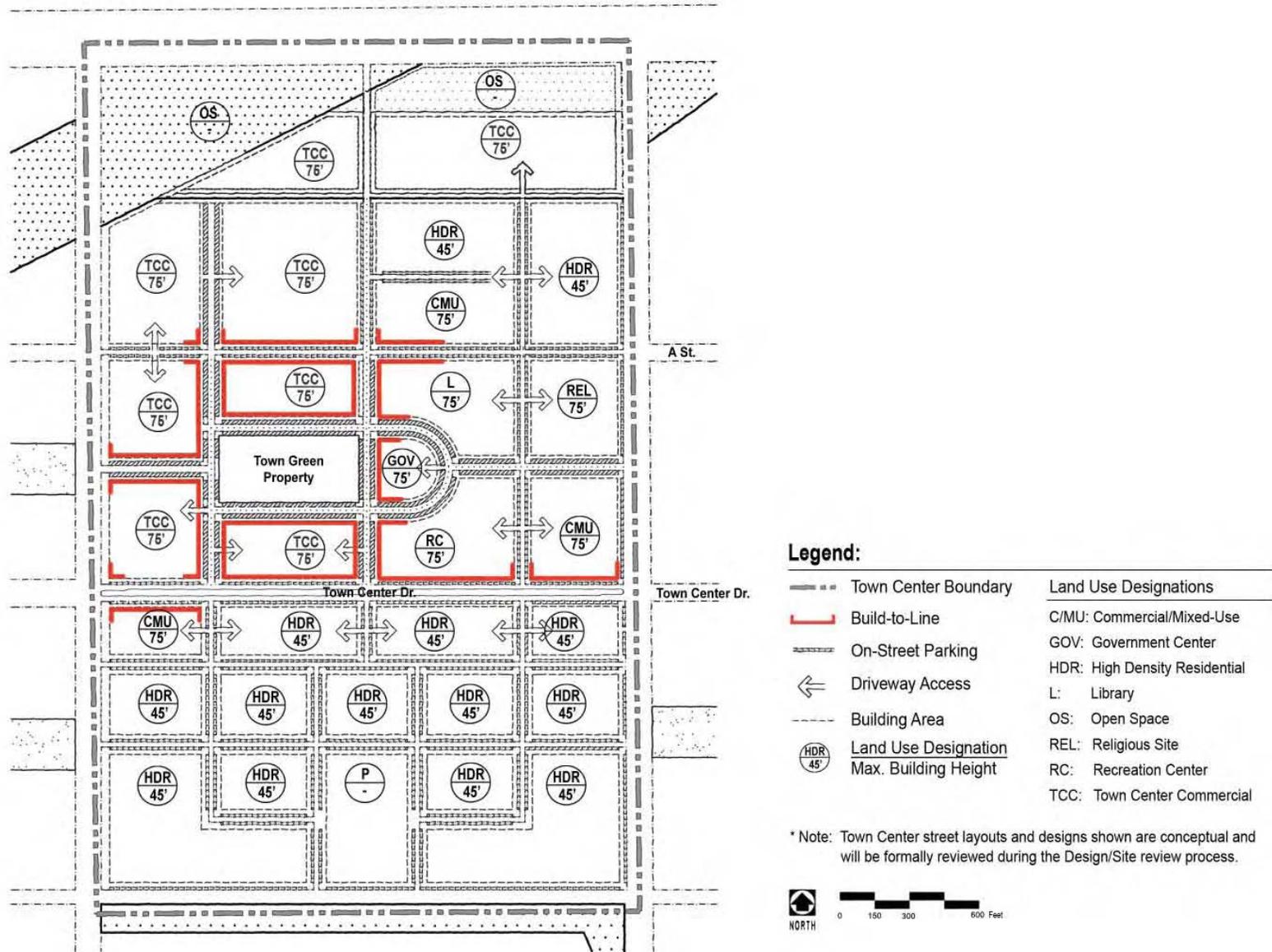


Figure 6.7 Town Center Massing

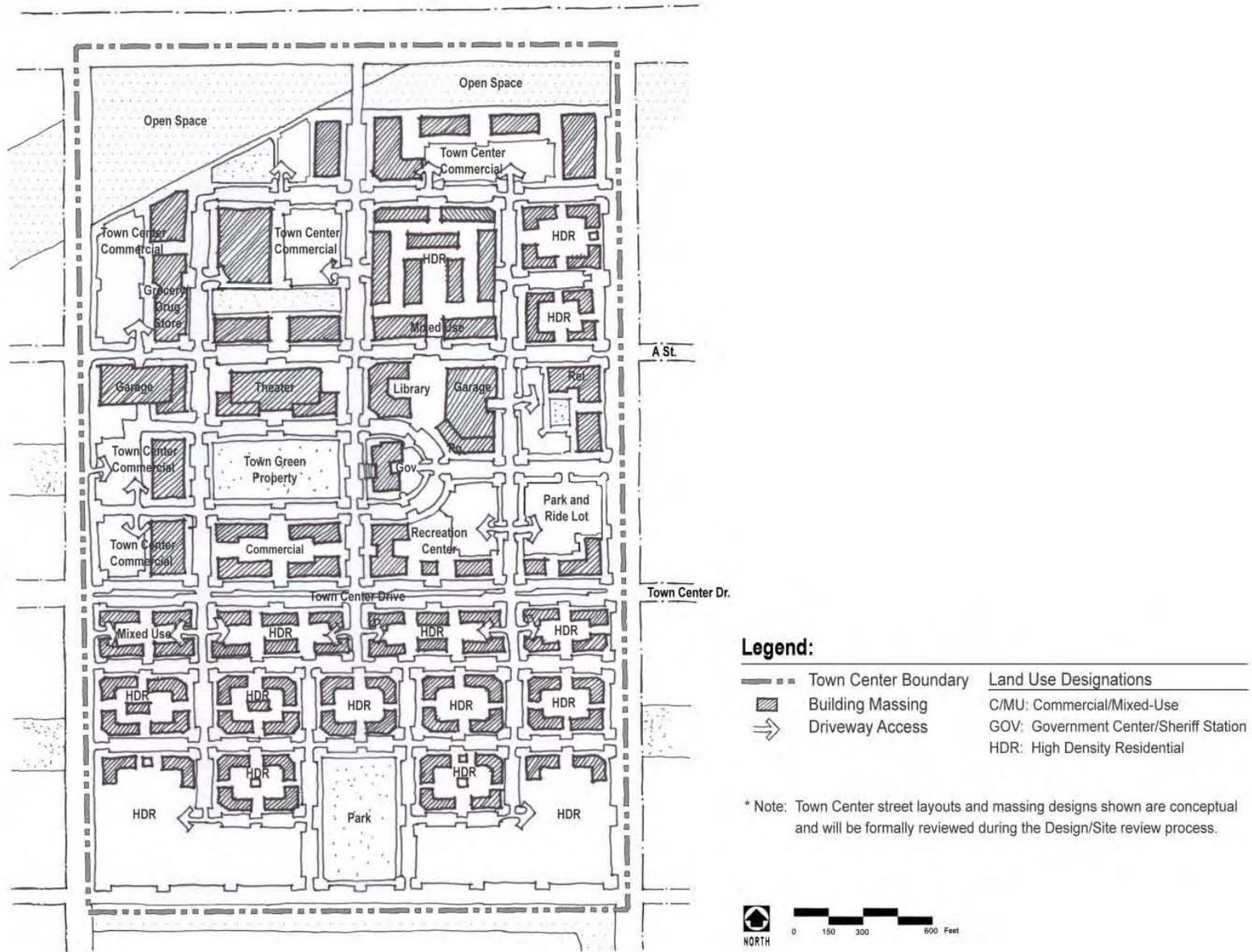


Figure 6.8 Town Center Parking and Streetscape

