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Published August 31st, 2011 Luxury Homes Rise at Wilder Diana LaScala-Gruenewald



Construction is nearly complete on a new home at Wilder. Photo Tod Fierner

The Wilder exit lies just east of the Caldecott Tunnel on Highway 24, and pulls quickly away from the noise of traffic. Shortly the road drops over a hill, revealing a silent, stunning vista full of radiant yellows and greens and the elegant Mount Diablo. Nestled into this peaceful landscape are the beginnings of roads and homes. The Wilder property looks like a lovely phantom of what it will be within a year one of the most beautiful residential areas of Lamorinda.

Wilder is a 1600 acre plot of private land, of which 300 acres are under development. 245 luxury homes are planned for the site, as well as five playing fields that can accommodate baseball and soccer, a tot lot and a private recreation center. According to OG Property spokesperson Jason Keadjian, the architecture of the development is intended to "encourage connections between the community and its natural surroundings." To this end, the Wilder community will be connected to trailheads in the neighboring East Bay Regional Park District by paths called "meanders," which are highly landscaped and will allow pedestrians to travel around the area without walking on the street.

Despite delays in 2009 and an especially rainy spring,

construction remains on schedule at Wilder. Today, two of the five playing fields are under construction, as are a few homes. Landscaping and road building are under way. The Quarry House, the private recreation center that includes a gym and an outdoor pool, is completed.

The homes that are currently being built are scheduled to be finished and sold this coming fall. They will be roomy, with square footage varying from 2,000 to well over 5,000. Prices will range from 1.5 to 3 million dollars. Each house will feature many windows and porches, and some will have spectacular views of the California hills.

While construction at Wilder will continue for the next several years, this December could bring the property's first residents. Tours of the area are available seven days a week; tourists can walk through the Quarry House and one of the new homes. Those interested should drop by the Ranch House at 2 Wilder Road and speak to Gerry Bakalian or Robin Rogers.

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back

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