

7 OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

7.1 Existing Open Space and Recreation Setting

There are three existing neighborhood parks in the vicinity of Woodglen: Wesson Ranch Park about ½ mile to the south, McKinney Colony Park about 1 mile to the southwest and Aqueduct Park, about ½ mile to the south.

The Modesto General Plan calls for a seven-acre minimum neighborhood park in the Stanislaus Park Planning Area, of which Woodglen is a part. The Woodglen Specific Plan is not central to the Stanislaus Park Planning Area, and will not contain the seven-acre neighborhood park. The parks acreage standard for neighborhood parks is 1 acre of park per 1,000 population within the Park Planning Area, and 2 acres of Community Park per 1,000 population and a minimum size of 40-acres within the Community Park Service Area.

Woodglen provides 9.2 acres of open space, in the form of landscaped areas, a linear parkway, an infiltration basin, and an open space area for active recreation. In addition, as part of project implementation (see Chapter 9: Implementation), the developer will contribute Capital Facility Fees to the City toward the development of a neighborhood park elsewhere in the Stanislaus Park Planning Area, and a community park in Northwest Modesto. The open space areas in the plan are designed to accommodate passive and active recreation activities, but

do not contribute acreage to the neighborhood and community park acreage requirements.

7.2 Open Space

The entire Woodglen residential area is oriented toward a 9.2-acre central open space feature that extends west to east through the development. Upon entering at Carver Road, one encounters a small landscaped area (one-half acre) that serves to divide the parkway. Designed for passive use, its landscape design offers seating areas and alerts the traveler that this is a peaceful residential area (See Chapter 5: Design Guidelines).

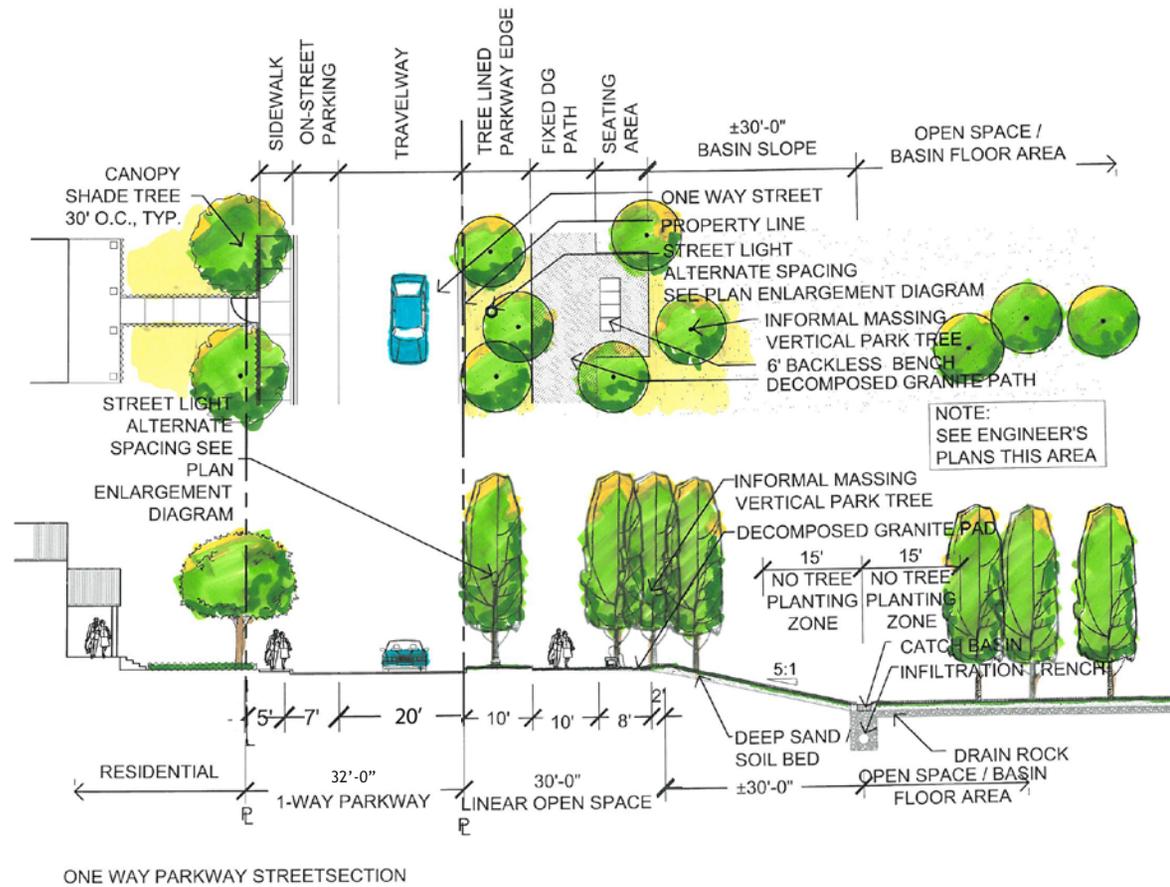
There is a 3.9-acre stormwater dual function infiltration basin/open space in the middle of the plan area. This basin is designed to swiftly remove stormwater and its turf slope and bottom is a usable open space for the residents virtually year-round. (See the Chapter 3, Section 3.5 and the Woodglen Facilities Master Plan for a full description of the basin.) The majority of the basin, including its gentle slopes and bottom, is turf suitable for informal recreation. Tall vertical trees are planted in drifts on the slope of the basin where they do not interfere with the stormwater infiltration process.

Around the basin's perimeter, is a landscaped, 30-foot wide linear parkway (2.3 acres) (See Figure 7-1). Beneath the generous shade of scattered Poplars that are inspired by the native Cottonwood that inhabit the Central Valley is a continuous east-west trail with informal seating areas. The trail is a 10-foot wide decomposed granite, multi-purpose trail. The multi-use trail is about 2,300 feet in

circumference – almost one half mile. The tree stands in the linear parkway are reflected in groupings within the basin below.

East of the basin is a 1.3-acre open space area designated for passive and active recreation. The open space recreation area may include the following amenities: a tot lot, a community garden, barbeque and picnic area, outdoor exercise area, and/or a private community clubhouse facility, and a community pool and spa.

Figure 7-1: Linear Open Space



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