

Sensitive/Sustainable Development District

CHARACTER

Although the Sensitive/Sustainable Development District is currently lacking in roadway connections and therefore somewhat isolated from the rest of Kyle, the newly planned RR 150 bypass will open a new corridor through this region, as well as new roads extending from the southwest to the northeast, around which natural residential expansion into the hill country will continue. The Sensitive/Sustainable Development District should be characterized primarily by Low- Impact Development. To this end, development and built forms must minimize visual intrusion into the landscape, as well as environmental impact, similar to the Ranch Landscape development pattern. Natural landscape elements should be incorporated into site design and shared/common spaces. Cluster development, conservation subdivisions, and certified resilient building standards are ideal and should be encouraged in this District. These types of development will preserve natural features and amenities while still absorbing an appropriate amount of development pressure.

INTENT

The purpose of the Sensitive/Sustainable Development District is to manage and direct growth toward forms of development that recognize the inherent natural systems and preserve the existing environmental assets. The two districts, bifurcated by the Ranch and Riparian Landscapes, will develop with low-density residential and light service and retail master planned communities, located along the new RR 150 bypass (which will extend from Arroyo Ranch to the west side of the Yarrington Road interchange with I-35). Suitably scaled retail and commercial opportunities should be encouraged for the provision of goods and services to residents, to keep that portion of the population from having to make cross-region trips for provisions. Development should be directed toward unique, creative, and site-specific forms that will protect the natural landscapes and create a beneficial community for local residents, and low impact development practices should be encouraged. Although a broad range of uses could be manifested in this District, most of the uses are conditional, affording the City opportunity to enforce sustainable development practices.

JURISDICTION

The Sensitive/Sustainable Development District is found in two parcels, both in the western and southwestern areas of Kyle. One parcel is located roughly between Old Stagecoach Road and the Blanco River and contains farm fields, ranch lands, and some single family residential development. The second parcel is located along the southern boundary of Kyle's ETJ, directly adjacent to San Marcos. This parcel currently contains significant tree cover, some agricultural fields, and a very small amount of single family residential uses. Figure 15 indicates the location of the Sensitive/Sustainable Development District.