

## 1 | Vegetable Gardens

Gardening is one of America's favorite pastimes, and the residents of Veridia will not be wanting. Therapy for the soul, fresh-cut flowers and abundant fruits and vegetables from one's own garden are often part of the life well-lived. A large plot, protected from deer, has been set aside for the purpose of a community garden, and each home will have its own plot to tend personally or donate to others for a share of the bounty. Should more area be desired, there is room to expand.

## 2 | Solar Array

A 100-kilowatt grid-intertied photovoltaic solar array will offset the majority of the anticipated electrical usage of the Veridia Community. The system will be placed on top of the carport structure, saving space and making the panels relatively unnoticeable. Energy from the array will be sold back to the utility at a premium price that is greater than what homeowners pay for consumed electricity. This allows a greater monetary return on the produced energy than would be possible by simply tying the system into the homes. The system is anticipated to generate enough revenues to cut HOA dues by more than fifty dollars per month per homeowner. In addition to the large photovoltaic array, each home in Veridia will be equipped with a solar thermal hot water system that will provide up to 80 percent of the home's hot water. This provides a drastic reduction in the energy use of each home.

## 3 | Rainwater Harvesting

Veridia will potentially be the first residential community in the state to reuse captured rainwater to flush toilets

as well as irrigate gardens. Rainwater from approximately 26,000 square feet of roofs will be stored in sixteen 1500-gallon underground cisterns. From there it will be filtered and reused for irrigation and in toilets via a separate plumbing supply line, reducing expensive city-water consumption by 50 percent. In times of drought, which are not uncommon in this area, you will be doing your part every day to conserve this precious resource — without an appreciable impact on your lifestyle.

## 4 | Public Transportation

Chapel Hill Transit provides free public transportation to Chapel Hill and Carrboro. A major bus line (the F Route) stops directly outside the neighborhood and connects with other lines that will take you anywhere in the system. Proximity to public transportation and

amenities could allow a family to function easily with just one car, representing significant environmental and monetary savings.

## 5 | Pedestrian Commons

In a world full of traffic noise and the hubbub characteristic of suburban living, many crave a more peaceful environment. Based on two previous successful community designs, Veridia architect Giles Blunden designed a perimeter route for cars and parking so that all homes face the greenway and connecting paths that comprise the pedestrian commons. In addition to the aesthetic advantages of the pedestrian commons, this design also promotes the spontaneous interactions with neighbors that characterize a thriving community. Homeowners will each have their own garden space adjacent to the

greenway, inspiring a mosaic of individual creativity. Water for those gardens will be supplied by the rainwater catchment system. Distributed along the path will be benches and sculpture by local artisans and a community fire pit will be placed at the eastern edge of the commons for use by all homeowners. Trees planted along the perimeter of the commons will, in a few years, provide a cool microclimate that will be a welcome respite in hot summers.

## 6 | Parking

Instead of building expensive and often-unused garages on each unit, homes in Veridia are provided flex parallel parking spaces along the perimeter driveway. Interested residents will have an option to purchase one of 28 low-cost carports to house their

vehicle in addition to the provided parking spaces reserved for Veridia residents and visitors. Residents who purchase a carport space will have the option of fitting the space with a charging station for an electric vehicle in the future, with the power being provided by the solar array on the carport roofs.

## 7 | Community House

The Community House will provide a welcoming space for larger gatherings and community events. Planned amenities include office space for the homeowner's association board, a kitchen for potlucks, scout meetings and other activities, restroom facilities and post office boxes. The final uses of the common house will be up to the community, but there is sufficient space to accommodate a host of potential uses.

## 8 | Children's Play Area

With a number of cleverly designed children's play areas in the local community from which to draw inspiration, we anticipate a fantastic playground for the kids. The community play area will be protected from surrounding properties by a large privacy fence, so you can feel comfortable leaving children with less supervision than you would in a public area.

## 9 | Bike Lane/Sidewalk

The Department of Transportation intends to widen the road outside the community in the spring of 2010, adding a turning lane, two bike lanes and a sidewalk that will, among other things, connect the development to the school. The turning lane will make it safer and easier to enter and leave the community. The bike lane will connect to the bike lane on Hillsborough Road and from there to a network of bike paths throughout Carrboro and Chapel Hill. In the other direction are various scenic rides for the bicycling enthusiast. The newly installed sidewalk connects with Carrboro Plaza and its shops on Highway 54 and with the McDougle School and beyond. There is a public library at the McDougle School as well as a track and ball fields that may be used after school hours and on weekends.



Site plan, features and amenities may be subject to change.

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