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## Johnson Development Services to open new section of Candela community in Fort Bend County



Entry to Candela in Fort Bend County
JOHNSON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



## By Florian Martin - Reporter, Houston Business Journal Aug 14, 2024



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The newest section in Johnson Development Services' master-planned community Candela in Fort Bend County is set to start home sales.

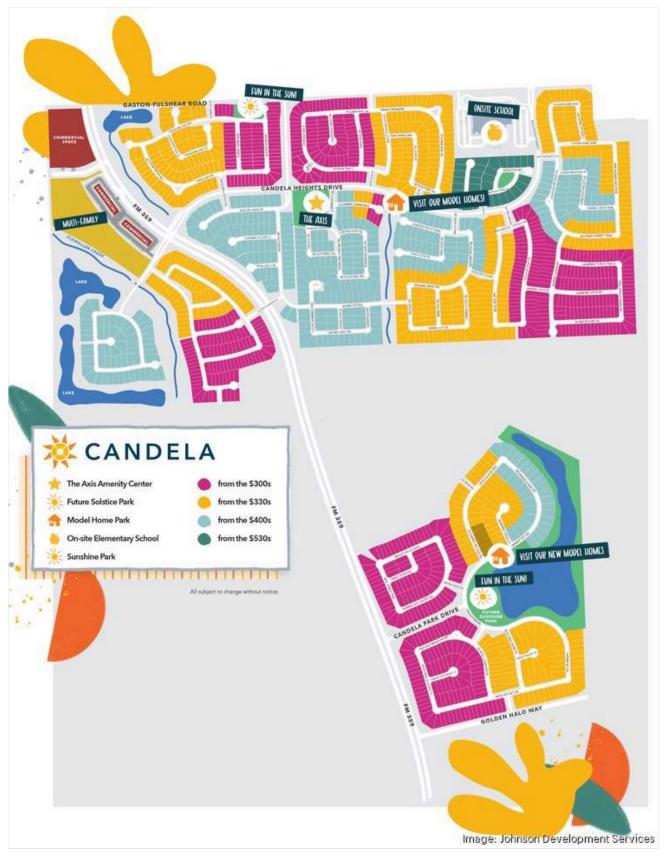
Three builders expect to open six model homes this fall for the 117-acre section, which is planned for 348 homes at build-out.

Coventry Homes, Westin Homes and Perry Homes will build on 40-, 50- and 60-foot lots. Houses start between \$336,000 and \$610,000, depending on the builder, Johnson Development Services said.

Candela is located along FM 359, about a mile south of the Westpark Tollway. The entire master-planned community spans 578 acres and was designed for 1,706 homes on 40- to 70-foot lots.

"We're thrilled to expand Candela with this new section offering a significant number of new homes," said Michael Cox, president of Johnson Development Services.

The new section is a bit farther south on FM 359 from the rest of Candela and separated by Forest Park Southwest Cemetery, some industrial and commercial development, and ranch homes. Both sections are part of the same homeowners association and municipal utility district, and they share amenities.



Master plan for Candela, with the new section on the bottom JOHNSON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Johnson Development Services acquired the first 461 acres in 2018 from Houston Nursery LLC and added the other 117 acres in early 2022. Since opening the original tract in early 2021, builders have sold 1,284 homes, the developer said.

Candela's Axis Amenity Center features meeting space, a courtyard with large fire pit, a fitness center, resort pool with shade structures, a yoga lawn and a splash pad. The community also has a playground and pavilion, and a dog park will be added.

The new section will include Sunshine Park, which will feature a lake view, open and shaded seating areas, trails for walking and jogging, and a playground. It is slated to open in the fall as well.

A third community park is planned for Candela's original section.

Candela is zoned to the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District, and an elementary school within the community, Bentley Elementary, opened this month.

Johnson Development Services is an affiliate of Houston-based Johnson Development Corp. that focuses on smaller communities. In the Houston area, Johnson Development Services has also developed Alder Trails, Amira, Grand Vista, Lost Creek and Willow Creek Farms. San Antonio-area projects of Johnson Development Services include Cinco Lakes, Davis Ranch, Overlook at Creekside, Willow Point and Winding Brook. Outside of Austin, it is developing Nolina.

Earlier this year, the developer broke ground on a 318-acre tract for a yet-to-benamed 1,300-home community in northwest Harris County off the Grand Parkway. In June, it announced it secured a \$41.8 million loan from Houston-based First Continental to fund the acquisition of the land and development of the first phase.