



DTSC helps turn contaminated soil into new Silicon Valley community

One of the last industrial sites in the Tasman/Fair Oaks neighborhood of Sunnyvale is about to be converted to a cozy residential neighborhood in a project that DTSC is overseeing.

Signature Development Group is proposing 47 two- and three-bedroom for-sale condominiums arrayed in four buildings over 1.7 acres. Signature representative Jamie Choy said the project is attractive because it is near a transit stop, offers affordable housing options, and is one of the last remaining pieces of land in a neighborhood – called [Futures Site 7](#) – that the city started transitioning from industrial to residential in the early 1990s.

Signature hopes to start construction next year. First, though, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is [accepting public comments](#) on the draft cleanup plan until July 8. The [proposal](#) calls for excavation of soil contaminated with various organic compounds.

The property was used for agricultural purposes from about 1900 to the 1970s, when an industrial building was constructed. Various light manufacturers operated there until 2011.

Silicon Valley has, in the last few years, become the state's hottest real estate market, and this site has drawn developer interest. Sunnyvale planning commissioners approved the condominium project on June 10. The industrial building will be razed.

"This project will bring much needed housing to the area" said Jayantha Randeni, the project manager for DTSC.

The proposed condominium development is unique because the buildings are multistory, but the separate residential units are single-story flats as opposed to townhouse-style. The buildings will be equipped with elevators that make the condos more accessible to people of all ages and physical abilities.

Each building will have a common entry to encourage interaction with residents, and the main entrances face each other to create places for people to

gather - "as opposed to projects where residents typically enter their unit through a garage and end up never meeting their neighbors," said Gerri Caruso, principal planner for the city of Sunnyvale.

DTSC doesn't just clean up toxic land. It helps create communities.

[Rendering of proposed development.](#)

