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Brookfield Residential plants 'Kissing Tree' community for seniors in San Marcos

[Brookfield Residential Properties Inc.](#) broke ground Thursday on its first age-restricted, master-planned community in South San Marcos.

Kissing Tree – located on 1,332 acres just west of the San Marcos Premium Outlets – will include up to 3,200 homes when completely built out and is one of the largest developments to ever hit the fast-growing city between Austin and San Antonio.



Here's a look at one of the Kissing Tree community amenities that Brookfield Residential... [more](#)

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"It's been our intent to do that kind of project there, as we saw where the market is going," said [Edjuan Bailey](#), senior director at Brookfield Residential.

The Calgary, Canada-based development giant has been active in Central Texas since 2007 when it opened Blanco Vista in San Marcos. Recently, [it opened Addison and Easton Park master-planned communities near Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.](#)

Bailey said the assemblage of the property for Kissing Tree dates back to 2008. The San Marcos property, he said, is picturesque with hills and other compelling geography.

The project originally had been branded as Paso Robles.

Because Brookfield wanted to own the name, the company traded in "Paso Robles" for the "Kissing Tree" moniker.

The name is derived from Texas Gov. Sam Houston's affection for the ladies, who were attending his gubernatorial speech delivered in front of a mighty oak tree in San Marcos in 1857.

Homes at Kissing Tree will begin around \$250,000 and top out about \$500,000. Sizes will range from 1,300 square feet to 3,500 square feet.

Kissing Tree will include 15 miles of hiking trails, an 18-hole golf course, an 18-hole putting course, a fitness studio, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, bocce ball facilities, swimming pools and a Texas barbecue pit.

Model homes are expected to be completed by the end of the year. At least one of the homebuyers must be 55 years old or older. No one under 18 may live in the community.

Those rules are similar to the Sun City neighborhood north of Austin. That decades-old project is several times larger than Kissing Tree – [and Sun City is still growing.](#)