

# Illustration of Our Vision





## Why Illustrate Our Vision?

Realizing our vision requires proactively planning for what we want - rural open spaces and high quality complete neighborhoods - by identifying where we want them and what we want them to look like. Our Vision is to direct development toward suitable areas in order to preserve and protect the ecosystem; and design development to enhance our quality of life. The Illustration of Our Vision defines the type of preservation or development in each area of the community that will allow us to realize our Vision. In areas suitable for development, the Illustration of Our Vision describes how we will protect the character we love while ensuring that development contributes to achieving the goals of the Comprehensive Plan. In all other areas, the Illustration of Our Vision describes how we will preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, wildlife connectivity, scenic vistas, and open space.

Defining desired character for all areas of the community provides predictability in planning and development, which has been absent in the past. Incremental, site-specific determinations of the applicable policies that are emotionally, politically and legally tied to a specific development plan are no longer the community's growth management principle. The Illustration of Our Vision bridges the gap between our communitywide Vision and the development of an individual site so that all community members can understand how an individual preservation or development project should contribute to the achievement of our Vision. The Illustration of Our Vision will inform land development regulations that ensure no policy of this Plan is forgotten and that all policies are implemented within the proper context.

The Illustration of Our Vision also provides accountability and measurability. By defining the existing and desired character of each area of the community, we can quantify our progress toward achieving the rural open spaces and high quality complete neighborhoods we desire. With this data we can determine what strategies work in which locations and improve our understanding of why certain strategies are more or less appropriate in certain situations. The Illustration of Our Vision will enable the rigorous analysis needed to continually adapt our implementation strategies to ensure that preservation and development occur in the desired amount, location and type.

# How is the Vision Illustrated?

The Illustration of Our Vision depicts the policies of the community's three Common Values on the ground through four levels of character classification.

At the highest level, the private lands of the community are divided into Character Districts – areas with common natural, visual, cultural and physical attributes, shared values and social interaction. Character District boundaries are based on a layering of the best available quantitative and qualitative data for each of the three Common Values (Ecosystem Stewardship, Managed Growth, Community Character) in order to identify areas that share similar characteristics.

While our community's 15 Character Districts share common values, each has a unique identity. Based upon the presence or absence of specific characteristics, each Character District is classified as either a Rural Area focused on ecosystem stewardship or a Complete Neighborhood focused on protecting and enhancing great neighborhoods. The map on pages IV-4 and IV-5 shows the Character District boundaries, specific Complete Neighborhood and Rural Area characteristics and the classification of each district.

At the next level, each Character District is divided into subareas. Each subarea is categorized as Stable, Transitional, Preservation or Conservation based upon the existing character of the subarea and the desired future character for the entire district. Stable and Transitional subareas are the most suitable locations for people to live, work and play. Subareas focused on ecosystem stewardship are designated as Preservation or Conservation. Because our Vision is to preserve and protect the area's ecosystem in order to ensure a healthy environment, community and economy for current and future generations, the community has committed to locating less than 40% of future development in the Preservation and Conservation subareas that make up roughly 93% of the private land in the community. At least 60% of future development will be directed into Stable and Transitional subareas, which make up only about 7% of the private land in the community. The map on pages IV-6 and IV-7 shows the subareas and defines the subarea classifications.

Finally, for each subarea, Character Defining Features are described to ensure the desired character is illustrated. The Character Defining Features provide the greatest level of site specific detail; however the characteristics are still conceptual and will inform specific regulations, incentives and programs. The characteristics valued by the community within a subarea are mapped, described and illustrated. On pages IV-8 and IV-9 is a legend that describes the symbols and graphics used on the Character Defining Features maps. An appropriate Neighborhood Form(s) is also identified for each subarea. A Neighborhood Form identifies the general pattern and intensity of development that meets the desired character. On pages IV-10 and IV-11 is a transect that depicts the continuum of Neighborhood Forms that make up our community and shows the relationship between the various patterns and intensities.





15 Character  
Districts

Rural  
Areas

Complete  
Neighborhoods

Preservation

Conservation

Stability

Transition



# Complete Neighborhoods + Rural Areas

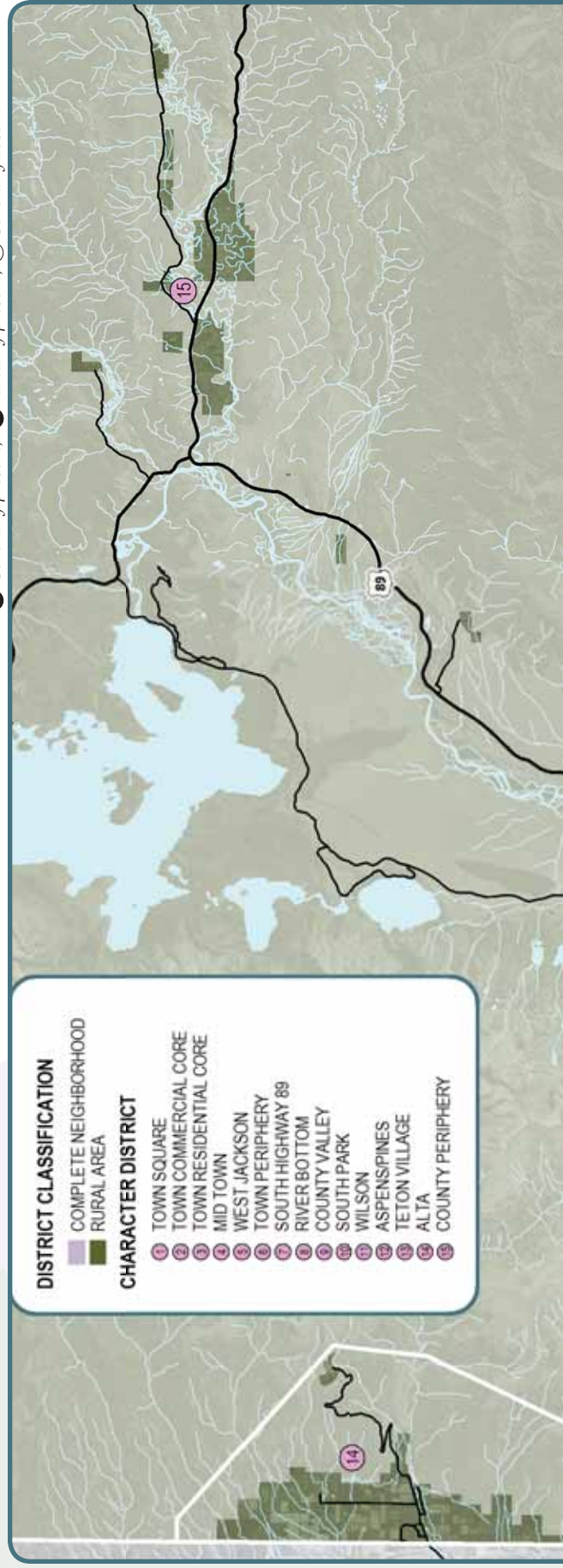
Character Districts

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Defined character and high-quality design	●										●	●	●		
Public utilities (water, sewer, and storm sewer)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Quality public spaces	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
A variety of housing types	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Schools, childcare, commercial, recreation, and other amenities within walking distance (1/4 to 1/2 mile) of residences	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Connection by complete streets that are safe for all modes of travel	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Viable wildlife habitat and connections between wildlife habitat			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Natural scenic vistas				●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●
Agricultural and undeveloped open space				●			●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●
Abundance of landscape over built form							●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Limited, detached single family residential development							●	●	●	●				●	●
Minimal additional nonresidential development			●			●		●	●	●				●	●

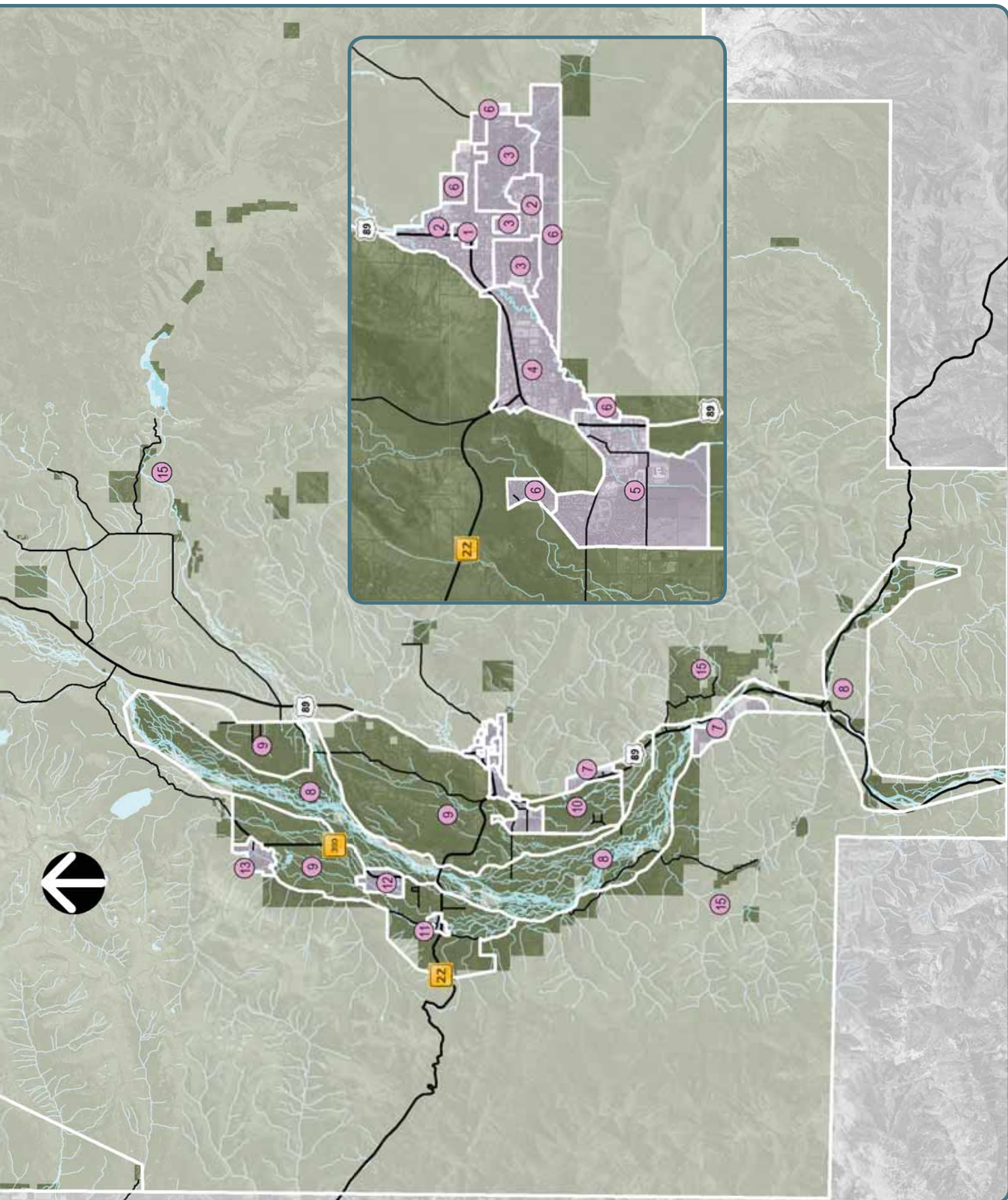
Complete neighborhoods provide:

Rural areas provide:

● Generally present; ● Partially present; ○ Generally absent







# Areas of Stability, Transition, Preservation + Conservation

## Complete Neighborhood Areas of Stability

- Subareas in which no change to the existing character is necessary
- Development will be infill that maintains the existing identity or vitality
- The subarea may benefit from strategic infill or development of non-existing Complete Neighborhood amenities

## Complete Neighborhood Areas of Transition

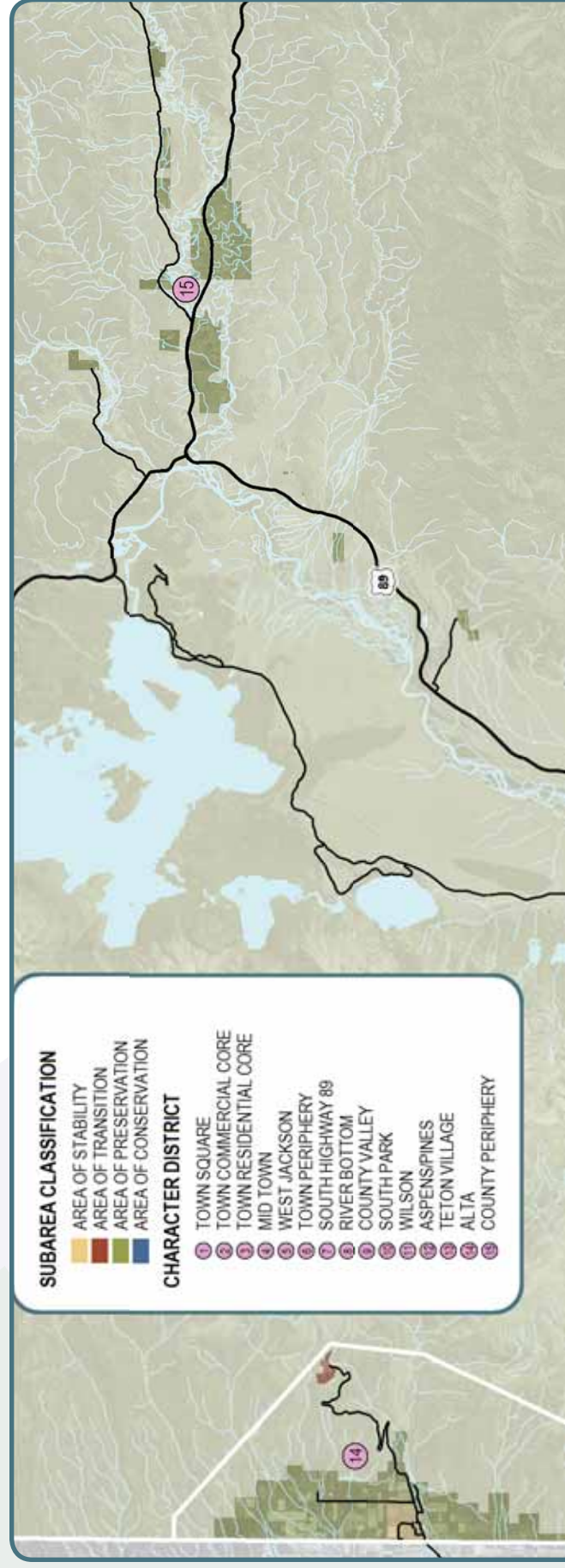
- Subareas where most of the community would agree that development/redevelopment or a change in character would be beneficial
- Subareas that would benefit from reinvestment and revitalization
- Goals for development include improving access to jobs, housing and services and reducing reliance on single-occupancy trips

## Rural Areas of Preservation

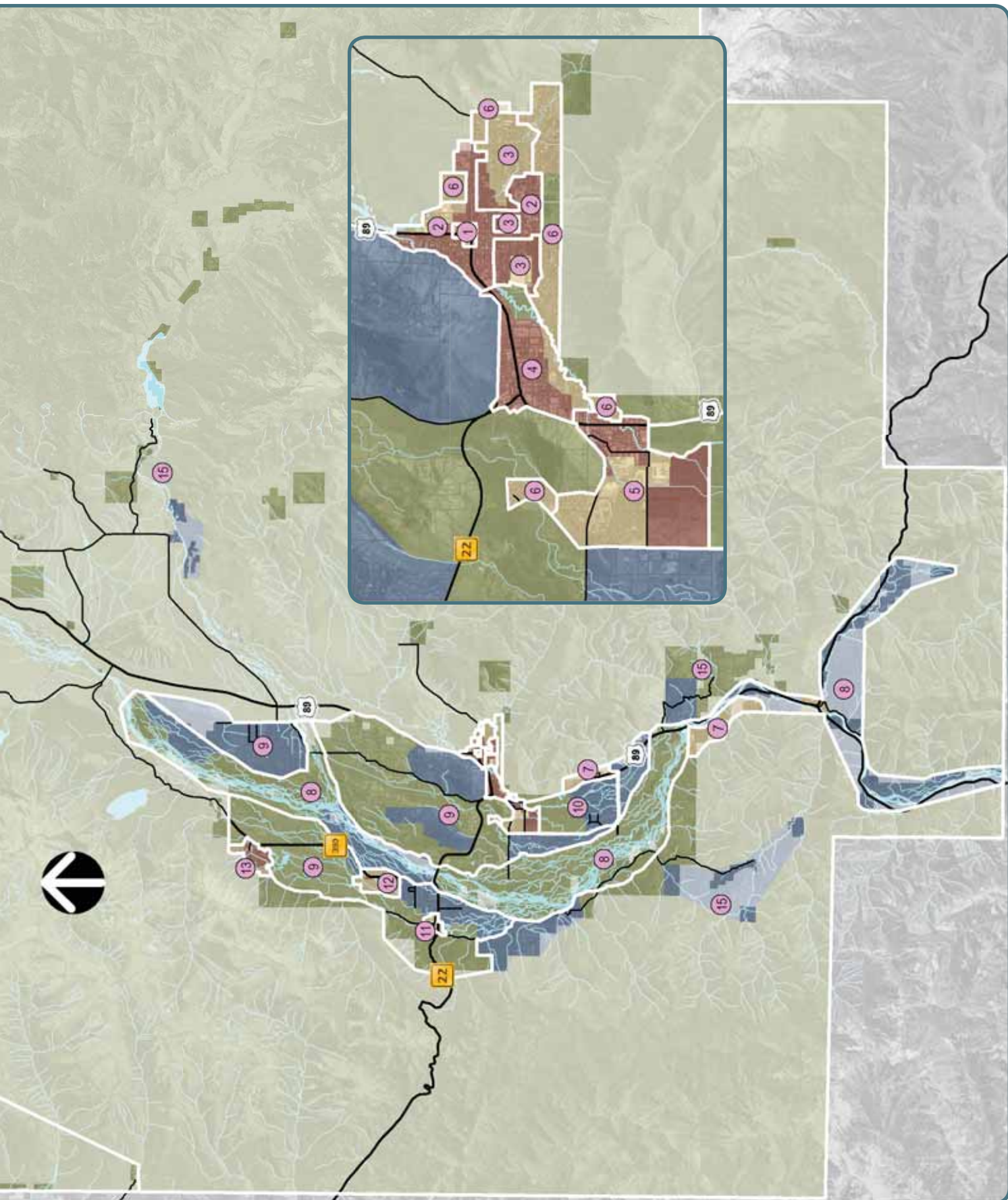
- Subareas in which no change to the existing undeveloped character of the scenic resources and wildlife habitat is necessary
- Additional amenities and infrastructure are inappropriate
- May benefit from some clustered residential development that improves the overall preservation of open space

## Rural Neighborhoods with Conservation Opportunities

- Areas of existing development and platted neighborhoods with high wildlife values, where development/redevelopment should focus on improved conservation
- Areas that benefit from an increase in open space, scenic resources, and habitat enhancement
- Goals include balancing existing developed wildlife with improved wildlife permeability and scenic enhancements.







# Character Defining Features - Map Symbols

The Character Defining Features Maps depict the characteristics that define each district and subarea. Below is a list of symbols and map attributes that are used on the maps. Characteristics that are locational are shown on the map using color symbols or map attributes. Other characteristics, depicted using black symbols, apply generally to a subarea, but are not location specific. All mapped features are illustrative of the character of an area and do not imply regulatory boundaries or specific locations.

## *Common Value 1 – Ecosystem Stewardship*



Wildlife Permeability: Design for wildlife permeability should be a characteristic of the subarea.



Agriculture: Agricultural use should be characteristic of the subarea.



Wildlife Highway Crossing: Wildlife-vehicle collision mitigation emphasis site as identified by the Western Transportation Institute and Montana State University College of Engineering in 2012.



Crucial Habitat: Bald eagle, trumpeter swan, mule deer, elk, and/or moose crucial winter habitat; mule deer and/or elk migration corridor; and/or bald eagle and trumpeter swan nesting area; and/or cutthroat trout spawning area as identified by the Conservation Research Center of Teton Science Schools in 2008.



Scenic Corridor/Vista: Scenic highway corridors and vistas as identified on 1994 Community Issues Maps.

## *Common Value 2 – Growth Management*



Gateway: A gateway into the community.



Public Parking: Existing parking provided by the Town of Jackson.



Road Corridor Enhancement: A roadway corridor that will be characterized in the future by enhanced pedestrian and commercial vitality.



Creek Corridor Enhancement: A creek within a complete neighborhood that will be characterized in the future by enhanced recreational opportunities and ecological value.



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### *Common Value 3 – Community Character*



Workforce Housing: Housing occupied by the workforce should be a characteristic of the subarea.



START Service: START service should be a characteristic of the subarea.



Local Convenience Commercial: Local convenience commercial should be located within the subarea.



Industrial: Light industrial and heavy retail use should occur in the subarea.



Parks and Recreation: Existing parks and recreation facilities.



School: Existing schools.



Key Transportation Network Project: Transportation network projects identified in Policy 7.2.d.



Existing/Proposed Pathways: Existing and proposed pathways identified in the Pathways Master Plan (2007).

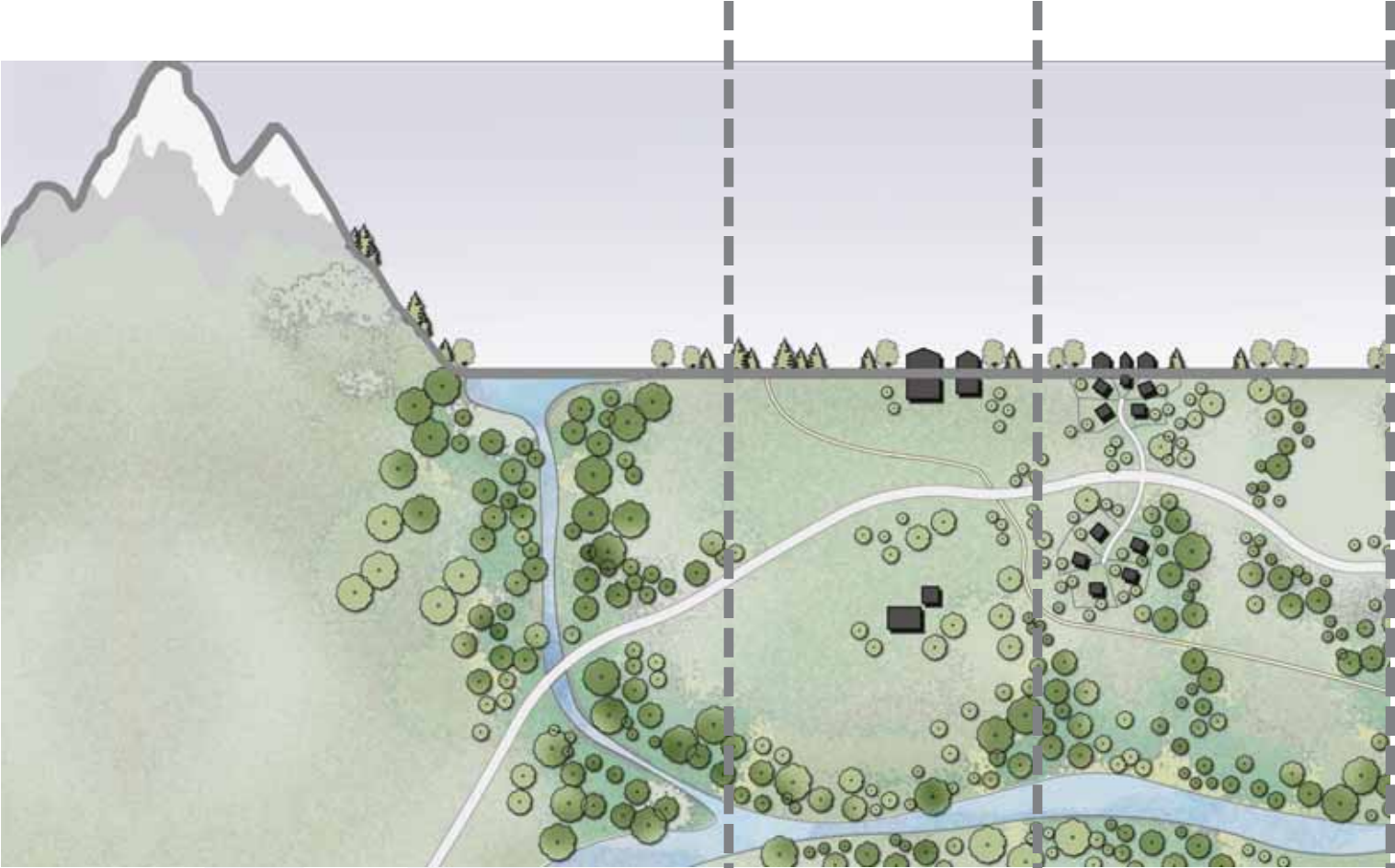


Improved Interconnectivity: An area that will be characterized in the future by increased interconnectivity.



# Character Defining Features - Neighborhood Form Continuum

A Neighborhood Form identifies the general pattern and intensity of development representative of a certain character. One or more neighborhood forms are associated with each subarea. Below is a transect that depicts the continuum of Neighborhood Forms that make up our community and shows the relationship between the various patterns and intensities that define our character.



	Preservation	Agriculture	Clustering
Acres	n/a	70+	35+
Height	n/a	n/a	2 story
Use	Preservation	Residential, Conservation	Residential, Conservation
Special Considerations	Preserved open space, wildlife habitat	Agricultural exemptions + incentives, scale of historic agricultural compounds	Improved wildlife habitat, open space and scenic protection with respect for private property rights, integrated transportation planning, scale of historic agricultural compounds







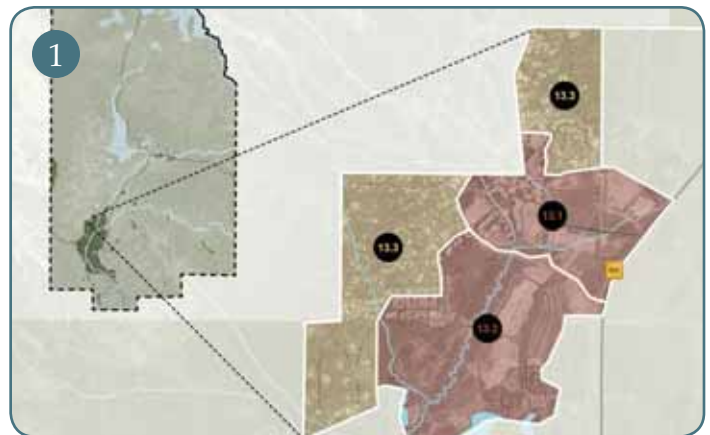
Habitat/Scenic	Conservation	Residential	Village	Village Center	Town	Resort/Civic
+/- 35	1-5	± 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2 story	2 story	2 story	2 story	2-3 story	2-3 story	n/a
Residential, Conservation	Residential	Residential	Residential, Local Convenience Commercial, Civic	Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Civic	Residential, Commercial, Civic	Resort, Civic
Design for wildlife and/or scenery, scale of historic agricultural compounds	Design for wildlife and/or scenery, scale of historic agricultural compounds	Design for wildlife and/or scenery, scale of historic agricultural compounds	Variety of housing types, complete streets, workforce housing	Mixed use, pedestrian oriented, complete streets, workforce housing	Pedestrian oriented, public spaces, complete streets, workforce housing, employment center	Master Planned, more intense development, public, semi-public facilities

# What Does the Illustration of the Vision Address?

Our community's Vision is illustrated in 15 Character Districts. Each Character District has unique issues, opportunities and objectives. Each Character District guides the overall implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and will ensure that preservation and development occur in the desired amount, location and type throughout the community.

Each Character District is composed of 6 parts:

1. The Vicinity Map identifies the district boundaries and the size of the district in relation to the entire community. It also depicts the boundaries of the district subareas and their Stable, Transitional, Preservation, or Conservation classification.
2. The Character Defining Features Map depicts the characteristics that define each district and subarea. Characteristics best described through mapping are shown on the map, while other characteristics are shown symbolically. Mapped features are illustrative of the character of an area and do not imply regulatory boundaries or specific locations of infrastructure. A complete list symbols used on the maps can be found on pages IV-8 and IV-9.
3. The Complete Neighborhood/Rural Area Table indicates whether the district currently has the characteristics of a Complete Neighborhoods or a Rural Area. It also indicates whether those characteristics will be maintained or enhanced in the future. This table serves to explain the classification of the district and identify the district's broad focus, basic issues and opportunities.



3 Complete Neighborhood + Rural Area Chart			
DEFINITION		EXIST.	FUTURE
COMPLETE NEIGHBORHOOD	Defined Character/High Quality Design	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Public Utilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Quality Public Space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Variety of Housing Types	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Walkable Streets, Commercial + Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Connection by Complete Streets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Viable Wildlife Habitat + Connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RURAL	Natural Scene Views	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Agricultural + Undeveloped Open Space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Abundance of Landscape over Built Form	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Limited, Detached, Single Family Res. Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Minimal Nonresidential Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legend		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generally Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially Present
		<input type="checkbox"/> Generally Absent	<input type="checkbox"/> Partially Absent



4. Existing + Future Characteristics describe in words the existing and future character of the district, focusing on the elements of character that should be preserved or enhanced. This section provides the overall goals and vision for the district.

#### 4 Existing + Future Desired Characteristics

Wilson is a small complete neighborhood with a broad reach. While relatively few residents live in the district, many more outside the district rely on it for services and consider it their home. In addition, it is the western gateway into the community for those travelling over Teton Pass. Wilson is characterized by quality social, economic, and natural amenities. It has parks, a community center, an elementary school, childcare, a general store, a hardware store, offices, medical services, restaurants, and bars all within a short distance. Fish Creek and the riparian areas of Wilson provide crucial wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors. Surrounding the district is permanently conserved agricultural open space.

Protecting Wilson's existing character while enhancing the district and meeting the community's growth management goals is the primary issue in Wilson. Wilson's future character should be consistent with the character which endears it to so many community members today. The district's residential subareas should maintain their character and Wilson should continue to provide locally-oriented commercial and neighborhood services that limit the need for trips from the west bank into Town. The provided services should be sufficient to support the residents of the district and those otherwise passing through the district without relying on additional development potential or attracting trips from elsewhere in the community. Pedestrian connectivity throughout the district should be enhanced by improved pedestrian access from the residential subareas into the commercial core, a more pedestrian-oriented design of the commercial core, and safe and convenient pedestrian crossings of Highway 22 in the commercial core and at the school. In addition, START should become a more visible and viable option for residents of Wilson and surrounding areas. Wildlife should continue to inhabit the district through the periphery and riparian corridors of Wilson.

5. The Policy Objectives are policies from the Common Value chapters of the Comprehensive Plan that are particularly relevant and should be implemented in the district. There may be other policies that apply to the district, but these are the key objectives to be met in the district in order for the community to achieve our overall vision.

#### 5 Policy Objectives

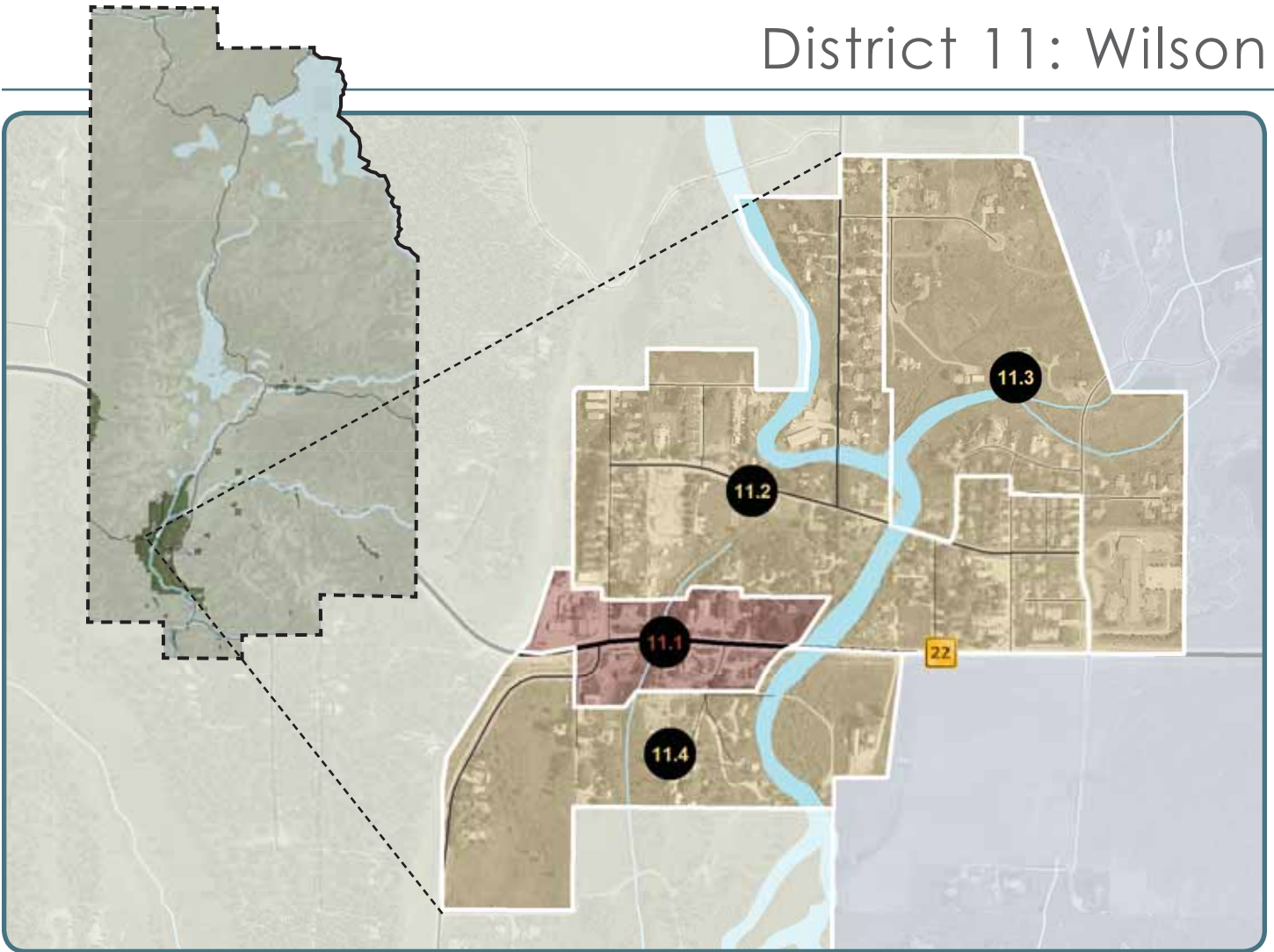
Common Value 1: Ecosystem Stewardship	1.1.c: Design for wildlife permeability
	1.2.a: Buffer water bodies, wetlands, and riparian areas from development
Common Value 2: Growth Management	3.2.b: Locate nonresidential development to Complete Neighborhood
	3.2.d: Emphasize a variety of housing types
	3.2.f: Enhance natural features in the built environment
Common Value 3: Community Character	5.3.b: Preserve existing workforce housing stock
	6.2.c: Encourage local entrepreneurial opportunities
	7.1.c: Increase the capacity for use of alternative transportation modes

6. The Character Defining Features describe each subarea through text, neighborhood forms, and photos and/or drawings. The focus of the description is the character priorities that will allow for the desired character of the district, and consequently the community Vision, to be achieved. The neighborhood form(s) depict the general pattern and intensity of development that meets the desired character; while the illustrations and/or photos provide a more detailed illustration of the desired built form. The entire continuum of built forms can be found on pages IV-8 and IV-9.

#### 6



# District 11: Wilson

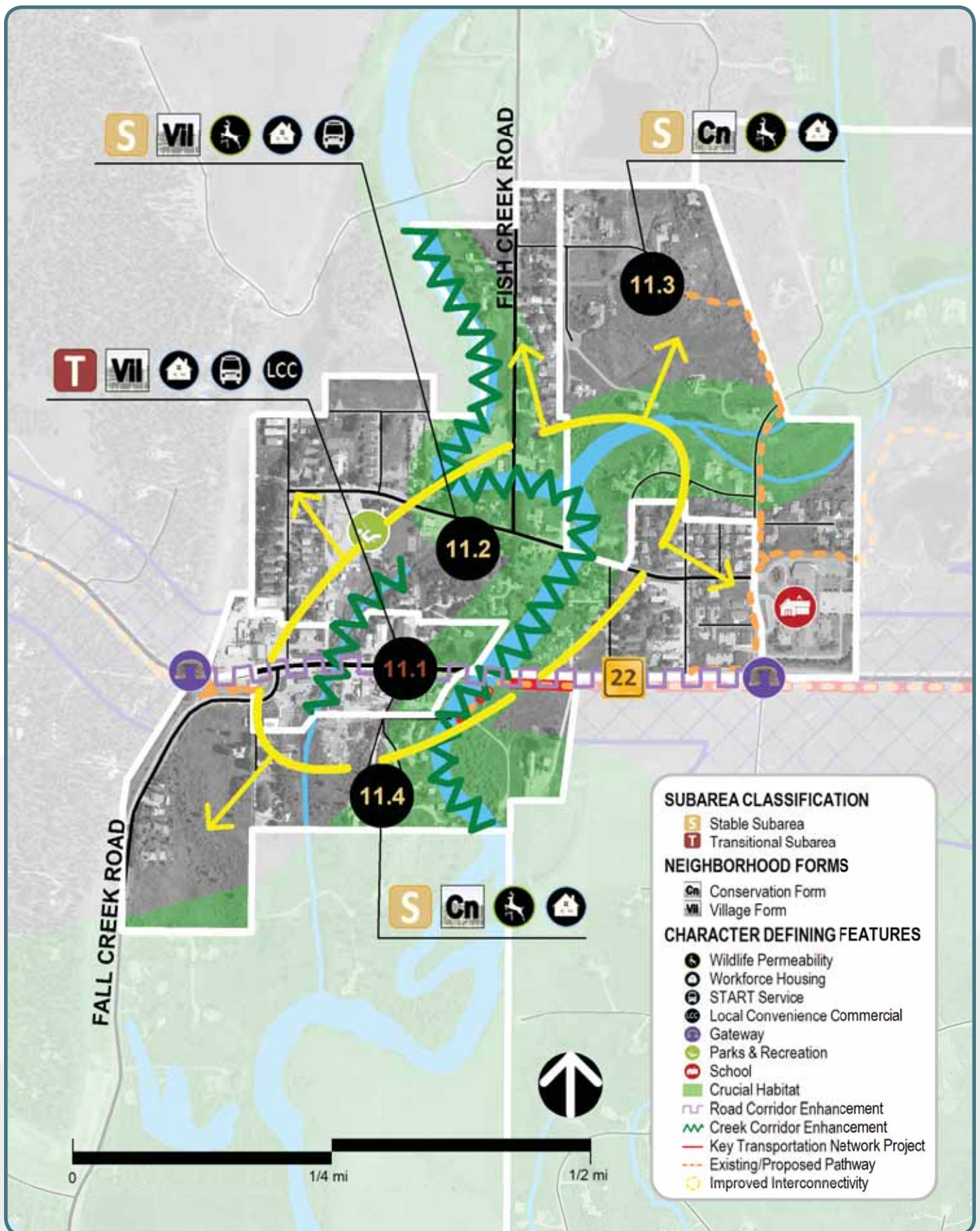


## Complete Neighborhood + Rural Area Chart

DEFINITION		EXST.	FUTURE	
COMPLETE NEIGHBORHOOD	Defined Character/High Quality Design			Defined character for subareas
	Public Utilities			Sewer
	Quality Public Space			Enhance parks, pathways, Fish Creek
	Variety of Housing Types			Single family with some ARU/duplex
	Walkable Schools, Commercial + Recreation			Maintain local oriented core and amenities
	Connection by Complete Streets			Improve pedestrian connectivity
RURAL	Viable Wildlife Habitat + Connectivity			Maintain/enhance permeability
	Natural Scenic Vistas			
	Agricultural + Undeveloped Open Space			
	Abundance of Landscape over Built Form			Maintain existing ratio
	Limited, Detached, Single Family Res. Development			
	Minimal Nonresidential Development			

Legend: Generally Present; Partially Present; Generally absent





# Existing + Future Desired Characteristics

Wilson is a small complete neighborhood with a broad reach. While relatively few residents live within the district, many more outside the district rely on it for services and consider it their home. In addition, Wilson is the western gateway into the community for those travelling over Teton Pass. Wilson is characterized by quality social, economic, and natural amenities. It has parks, a community center, an elementary school, childcare, a general store, a hardware store, offices, medical services, restaurants, and bars all within walking distance. Fish Creek and the riparian areas of Wilson provide crucial wildlife habitat and wildlife movement corridors. Surrounding the district is permanently conserved agricultural open space.

Protecting Wilson’s existing character while enhancing the district and meeting the community’s growth management goals is the primary issue in Wilson. Wilson’s future character should be consistent with that which endears it to so many community members today. The district’s residential subareas should have stable character and Wilson should continue to provide locally-oriented commercial and neighborhood amenities that limit the need for trips from the west bank into Town. The provided services should be supported by the residents of the district and those otherwise passing through the district without relying on additional development potential or attracting trips from elsewhere in the community. Pedestrian connectivity in the district should be enhanced by improved pedestrian access from the residential subareas into the commercial core, a more pedestrian-oriented design of the commercial core, and safe and convenient pedestrian crossing of Highway 22 in the commercial core and at the school. In addition, START should become a more convenient and viable option for residents of Wilson and surrounding areas. Wildlife will continue to inhabit and move through the periphery and riparian corridors of Wilson.

## Policy Objectives

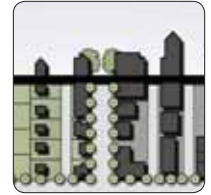
<i>Common Value 1: Ecosystem Stewardship</i>	1.1.c: Design for wildlife permeability
	1.2.a: Buffer water bodies, wetlands, and riparian areas from development
<i>Common Value 2: Growth Management</i>	3.2.b: Locate nonresidential development to Complete Neighborhoods
	3.2.d: Emphasize a variety of housing types
	3.2.f: Enhance natural features in the built environment
<i>Common Value 3: Community Character</i>	5.3.b: Preserve existing workforce housing stock
	6.2.c: Encourage local entrepreneurial opportunities
	7.1.c: Increase the capacity for use of alternative transportation modes



# Character Defining Features

## 11.1: Wilson Commercial Core

This TRANSITIONAL subarea is defined by its future character as a vibrant, mixed use, active, pedestrian core. It will retain its commercial character, providing locally-oriented commercial uses that serve the residents and visitors of Wilson without attracting additional vehicle trips. Small unit attached and detached housing, including workforce housing, should be added to enhance the residential character of the subarea. However, buildings should continue to be no more than two stories. Development should be set back from, but also oriented toward, Fish Creek and Edminston Spring Creek to preserve their ecological value while drawing attention to them as natural amenities. The design of the Highway 22 corridor is key to addressing all users of the commercial core. Calming highway traffic and improving highway crossings will enhance the pedestrian character of the subarea, inviting residents of the district to travel by foot or bike into the commercial core. Pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure should be separated from the highway, and a median should be added to the highway cross section. At the eastern and western entrances to the subarea, buildings should be pulled to the highway to create a gateway into the core. Within the core, buildings may be pushed back further from the street to allow an on street parking character without requiring parking on the highway. However, the majority of the parking should be located behind buildings or screened from view.

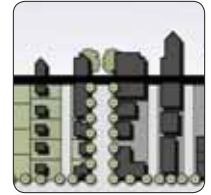


Village



### 11.2: Wilson Townsite

This STABLE subarea is defined by its history as the original Wilson townsite. The 50 foot by 150 foot lot pattern should be preserved and creation of smaller or larger lots should be discouraged. Each lot should contain a single family home with a possible accessory residential unit. Building size should be consistent with the existing character of the subarea. Protection of this character should allow this subarea to continue to provide workforce housing opportunities. Wildlife permeability should be maintained through the location and design of development and redevelopment. Streets should continue to be rural in character with natural drainage swales and no sidewalks, while being enhanced with off street pathways connecting the residential subareas of Wilson to the commercial core.

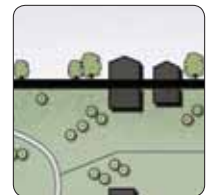


*Village*



### 11.3: Wilson Meadows

This STABLE subarea is defined by larger platted lots than the Wilson Townsite and serves to blend the townsite density into the more rural surroundings. The one to two-acre lots in this subarea should continue to be developed with detached single-family homes. Development should be located and designed for wildlife permeability. Development should be set back from Fish Creek and the adjacent riparian area in order to preserve their habitat function. Pedestrian and bike connections to the commercial core would enhance the livability of this subarea, and connections from other subareas of the district to the school would enhance the livability of the entire district. At the school, traffic should be slowed and a safe Highway 22 crossing for schoolchildren and other pedestrians is encouraged.



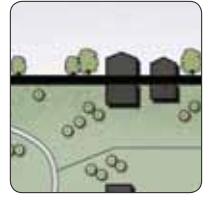
*Conservation*





#### 11.4: South Wilson

This STABLE subarea is defined by wildlife movement and larger lots than the rest of Wilson. This subarea south of the commercial core is less developed than the subareas to the north and serves as a corridor for wildlife to move from the Teton Pass area to Fish Creek and the Snake River. One detached residential unit per three acres or more will continue to characterize development in this subarea. Obstructions to wildlife movement should be avoided or minimized through development and redevelopment. Of special consideration are Fish Creek, Edminston Spring Creek and the wetlands of this district, which should be protected and enhanced to provide habitat and habitat connectivity. The proximity of this subarea to the commercial core, coupled with its relatively low density, allows pedestrians and cyclists to share the internal roads with vehicles in order to access the amenities of the commercial core.



Conservation

