

South Valley builder breaks ground on 95-home project

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Site plan for San Marino, the new 95-home development by San Joaquin Valley Homes in Visalia.

SPECIAL TO THE BEE

South Valley builder [San Joaquin Valley Homes](#) has started construction on a 95-home development in northwest Visalia called [San Marino](#).

The \$30 million project is on 26 acres at Riggin Avenue and South Shirk Road. The builder has four floor plans ranging in size from 2,219 square feet to 3,250 square feet with three to six bedrooms.

The houses have tech centers, spacious laundry rooms, and large covered patios. There is an option for a casita, or in-law quarters, with its own entrance and bathroom that can also be built as an area for a game or media room.

San Joaquin Valley Homes entered the new-home market in 2013. Its founders — Joe Leal, Jim Robinson and Randy Merrill — have 15 years of experiencing working together and for a different homebuilder before starting their own company.

They know have six communities in Corcoran, Hanford and Visalia. A grand opening for San Marino is planned in April.

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