

# Templeton Community Profile

## **General Profile**

Templeton is a pleasant rural community located midway between Atascadero and Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County. It was founded in 1886 when the Southern Pacific Railroad came through the area. Templeton has retained much of its historical character - many of the old buildings have been restored and are still in use today. New buildings are being built, but always with an eye to the past.

## **Area Growth**

Templeton is one of three unincorporated areas in San Luis Obispo County that has land available for development. The population of the community of Templeton was 1,173 in 1990 and 3,139 in 1995. Unofficial 2000 estimate is approximately 5100.

## **Climate**

At an elevation of 721 feet above sea level, the climate is mild and smog free. Prevailing winds are from the southwest and average four miles per hour. Humidity is 31-40%, and average rainfall is about 15 inches. The average temperature in January is 60 Degrees during the day and 41 Degrees at night. In July, the daytime high averages 95 Degrees with nights dropping to 55 Degrees, thanks to the ocean breeze. The average rainy season runs from mid-October to mid-April, with frost occurring occasionally. Click [here](#) for current area weather.

## **Commercial and Industrial Profile**

Businesses currently in Templeton include everything from real estate to tack shops, veterinarians to orthopedic surgeons. Twin Cities Community Hospital is an 84-Bed general medical/surgical acute care facility, equipped with state-of-the-art technology. There are 97 active medical staffers and 64 on the courtesy staff. The hospital serves the entire North San Luis Obispo County. It offers advanced capabilities for numerous services and specialties including Emergency Medicine, Orthopedics, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Nuclear Medicine, Physical and Respiratory Therapy, Cardiology and Radiology. The Wilshire Foundation a not-for-profit organization, currently operates a 99-Bed convalescent center - skilled nursing facility licensed by the State of California. They also operate Templeton Gardens, a forty unit retirement apartment complex with emergency call, transportation and optional meals. Cal Trans, Southern California Gas, SBC, the California Highway Patrol and the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff have located their regional headquarters in Templeton. The area is served by almost a dozen churches and numerous service and community clubs.

## **Agricultural Profile**

Templeton is surrounded by rich agricultural land. The topography ranges from semi-flat to hilly with clusters of oak trees. Heavy production of almonds, cherries, apples, grains and dairy products now exist within the area. The most rapidly increasing product is grapes. There are many wineries to be found on the roads winding through the neighboring hills.

## **Housing Profile**

There are a number rental units available and Templeton maintains a nearly zero vacancy factor. There are several housing tracts under various stages of construction. Several areas have subdivided into 1 to 10 acre lots and have attracted a cross section of families to the area.

## **Public Services & Utilities**

Sewer, water, street lights, refuse collection, and fire services are provided by the Templeton Community Services District. Water is pumped from local wells and the Salinas River. Fire Protection is supplied by a local volunteer force with their own fleet of fire trucks. Additional trucks and crews are available through contract with the California Department of Forestry, located in Templeton. Law enforcement services are provided by the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department with a substation located in Templeton. Electricity, gas and telephone services are provided by Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Gas Company, and SBC. Other services include a post office, curbside recycling, cemetery and public schools.

## **Recreation**

Templeton is located 30 minutes from the coast, both to the west and south. It is within 35 minutes by car to Hearst San Simeon Monument. Lake Nacimiento, with over 166 miles of shoreline and water skiing, fishing and camping, is 22 miles to the northwest. Just north of Lake Nacimiento is San Antonio Lake. Five miles north of Templeton is the site of the Mid-State Fair, which attracts over 300,000 visitors during August each year and offers internationally renowned entertainers. In the center of Templeton there is a three acre, tree-covered county park with a bandstand and municipal swimming pool. The Community Services District operates Bethel Park, at the corner of Bethel and Las Tablas Roads. The park currently contains parking, a soccer field and restrooms, and Tiny Tot area. Evers Sports Park offers several acres of soccer and all fields and is located at the East end of Gibson Street. The Templeton Community Services District offers soccer, softball, basketball, and other recreational programs and activities.

## **Education**

The community is served by the Templeton Unified School District. Education facilities in Templeton continue to grow with the student population. In 1988, there were approximately 800 students in grades K-12, with one elementary/junior high school and one high school. By 1995, the student population had doubled and in 2002 the student population has grown to approximately 2650. As enrollment increased, new facilities were added to accommodate the added students. Templeton is now proud to have Templeton Elementary School for students in grades K-2, Vineyard Elementary School for students in grades 3 through 5, Templeton Middle School for students in grades 6 through 8 and Templeton High School for grades 9 through 12. The district has also added alternative educational programs to serve the unique needs of some students. These programs include a thriving home school program for students in grades K through 8 and an independent study high school for students in grades 9 through 12. In addition, the district offers the Templeton Community Day School and Eagle Canyon Continuation High School for students more suited for a smaller environment with more one-on-one instruction. Templeton Elementary School, Vineyard Elementary School, and Templeton High School have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools and Vineyard Elementary School has been recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School as well. Templeton looks forward to the opening in late 2002 of the new Performing Arts Center on the high school campus as well as a new P.E. Complex to be ready by the Fall of 2003. In addition to the new sports complex at the high school, the Vineyard Athletic Park is located adjacent to Vineyard Elementary School and offers baseball fields for high school athletic contests. Vineyard Elementary School is also proud of the Vineyard Nature Trail where students are afforded the opportunity to study birds, fish and wildlife in their natural setting.

## **Templeton Planning & Development (TAAG)**

The Templeton Area Advisory Group (TAAG) is a board of volunteers who live within the Templeton Community Service District (TCSD) and/or the Templeton Unified School District (TUSD) boundaries. It provides advice and recommendations to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors and the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission on issues of land use and planning.

The purpose of TAAG, as described in its bylaws, is to review and solicit public input on projects planned for development that have been submitted to the San Luis Obispo County Planning Department. In addition to requiring applicant compliance with area planning documents, a Templeton specific Community Design Plan has been adopted which must also be complied with. After public review, TAAG reports its recommendations to the Planning Department as guidelines for development.