

## **Pixel Park**

Inspire. Activate. Design. Iconic. Legendary.

### Project Statement

With our design, we seek to create a destination — a point of convergence for all ages with an architectural landmark that rises out of the landscape as a beacon for Silicon Valley. Taking inspiration from San Jose's technological pioneers, we used the Pixel as our reference point for the park's conceptual design. From the pavers to the shape of the Tower, the Pixel is an integral element of the design.

To activate the site, we started with the tower design and the integration of hardscape and softscape into the pixel shape, twisting and lifting it. The 200' pixelated tower is a visual reference from which the rest of the park design flows. Located in Arena Green West, the Tower is accessible by a bridge and observation deck that span the length of the park. Taking an elevator to the top of the tower, you'll step out to striking views of downtown San Jose and the confluence of the Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek. Accessible by ramp on the south side and by stair or elevator on the north, the bridge creates an additional layer of park, elevated above the sparkling water feature that cascades down to the main park below.

The grassy areas lift and turn, creating an undulating and inviting landscape for climbing or relaxing. On the north side of Arena Green West is the rain garden, designed to reduce runoff and soak up water. On the south side is a sculpture garden, adjacent to the existing Five Skaters. A flat area surrounded by trees at the base of the Tower can be used for picnics, yoga, and other outdoor activities.

Arena Green East becomes a Sensory Playground, with features designed to stimulate and activate the senses. On the north side, an interactive feature allows children and adults to weave in and out of a penetrable sculpture inspired by artist Jesus Rafael Soto. In the middle of the site is a water archway that children can run through or stand under and play. On the south side are a series of metal arches for hanging on, running through, and climbing around. With lifted landscape for climbing and playing (and then coming down the slides toward the north side of the site), the design mimics the landscape of Arena Green West, however, with color injected to the pavers to create a more dynamic, engaging and playful environment.

(\* Lighting design TBD based on site constraints and requirements)