

## PROJECT STATEMENT

# HIGH PARK

High Park is an elevated garden overlooking the Santa Clara Valley. Conceived as an observation platform and a raised fragment of the natural ecology of the valley below, this landmark is a celebration of nature and a living reminder of the fragile ecosystems we must protect. This proposal extends the role of the urban icon beyond a formal gesture in the skyline to create a habitable urban place that remains alive and reflective of its context below.

## URBAN LANDMARK

A single triangular platform set two-hundred feet above the Guadalupe River Park provides a garden in the sky. Accessible via elevators running along one of its supports, it houses a garden, a small cafe and open air event space with dramatic views of Silicon Valley. High Park offers an escape from the city below with an ideal overlook for visitors. Designed as a refuge for migratory birds, its plantings reflects the local flora endemic to the Santa Clara Valley. At its core, High Park becomes a highly visible counterpoint to rapidly growing urban center that surrounds it.

## PLACE-MAKING

Although Silicon Valley is known for the technological revolution that has reshaped the culture of our time, what makes it unique in the world is not the ephemeral nature of its products or the physical manifestation of technology itself, but rather, the ecosystem of innovation and ideas it sustains. To this point, High Park stands as a living symbol of the fragility of the ecology of place - the need to preserve and protect the natural, human, and intellectual relationships that makes any given place special.

## NIGHT & DAY

During the day, High Park is visible from a distance to become the defining feature of downtown San Jose and a forward looking symbol for Silicon Valley. At night its curved underbelly is softly illuminated to inscribe an unmistakable figure in the skyline. This elevated terrain has no precedent and remain a memorable addition to the network of outdoor public spaces along the Guadalupe River Park.

## NET ZERO

High Park is envisioned as a self sustaining elevated ecosystem that seeks to minimize its impact and achieve net-zero. Shaped to collect rainwater and redistribute for use its use, it incorporates geothermal loops under its foundation for all heating and cooling needs. Other features integrated in the surrounding landscape of the park generate electricity offset the environmental impact caused by the structure during construction.