

## GREEN FRAME

### Concept

The new icon of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has to be green. Nature should prevail over architecture to represent a transition towards sustainability, climate change response and rescue of the planet. An unprecedented landmark for an extraordinary era, the Green Frame surrounds the public park with a structural wooden framework reaching 200 feet, allocating a vertical tree nursery. With that, the project will be constantly changing the size of its trees and the gaps of sunlight and views, all according to growth and sales. This will not only offer a system to encourage tree planting but also bringing revenue, making it sustainable in its lighting and maintenance costs.

### Structure

Additional to its economic sustainability, the project would be built entirely of renewable wood, cooperating in its net-zero energy approach. If needed, supplementary solar panels could be allocated at the highest level of the frame. In order to span both available sites for foundation, the entire lattice works as a Vierendeel bridge spanning the Los Gatos Creek and the Guadalupe River. Ramps are distributed within the inner side of the ring for people to visit the entire structure, select and buy trees, or simply walk through the three-dimensional park with views of the city or the inner park.

### Universal Park

The term 'universal space' was conceived by Mies van der Rohe to define a long-span flexible enclosure. We transformed that idea to the 21<sup>st</sup> century using a vegetational screen at the inner roof supported by a post-tensioned grid, filtering sunlight and creating a mega outdoor-indoor space, a post-Miesian convention hall of this new age. In this new type of 'universal park', a new public realm is formed, comfortable most of the day and creating a new type of biosphere where birds and nature is enhanced. The concept of lighting at night reinforces the utopian presence of the natural 'building', but it is during the day where the natural light experience is unforgettably enjoyed, a singular experience for every person, and to a specific day and hour of the year; a cathartic encounter with nature right in the middle of the city. Furthermore, from a distance and even without visiting the place, its exterior will show an idyllic and surreal green oblique box in sharp contrast to the concrete, glass and steel urbanism of the last century; a blatant icon representative of the future we all aim.