

## LIGHTOWER

### Exterior

The Lighttower project proposes two rays of light emanating from a lost, invisible light tower. Despite the fact that the competition was only inspired by the San José Electric Light Tower, which collapsed in 1915, we believe history has its profound value and it can be projective. The long 'light ray' spans the creek and river and it is supported by a shorter stepped 'light ray', which provides structure to the iconic double cantilever. Its form is simple yet asymmetric from every side offering diverse views while moving across the park or highway. It seems to always be falling in numerous directions, as light does within any urban or architectural environment.

### Interior

A pixelated field within allows for flexible cultural, commercial and learning programs that can promote the work of startups, new technologies, exchange and knowledge in Silicon Valley. It is an 'endless' one point perspective tube with 'endless' skylights of golden proportion that reinforce the presence of natural light inside. This space would be the new stage for bright ideas in the region.

### Sunlight

The Lighttower relies on sunlight to power itself. Yellow solar panels at the sloping roofs (towards the south) provide the needed energy to operate the net-zero energy building. Constructed in yellowish wood the landmark is lit at night by warm lighting that maintains the daylight aspect, a 24-hour light ray representing once again San José and the region.

The primary source of light is the sun. The earth is located at a fortunate distance where the sun does provide sufficient energy for life and for plants to produce food via photosynthesis. The sunlight produces more energy in one day than the total that is needed in the world during a year. It takes 150,000 years to be made at the sun's core yet eight minutes to reach our planet, and this is only 1 part in 2 billion of what is irradiated. The world can be transformed when we learn to properly harvest the sun's energy. The Lighttower proposes a new sustainable beginning while representing at the same time the brilliance of the scientific and technological developments of Silicon Valley. When these two ends properly meet, sunlight and technology, we can foresee a post-climate change world with a balanced relationship with nature.