

## PROJECT STATEMENT

# THE RAMBLE

A walk, a stroll, a run, a trek or a hike are all things to do at The Ramble – a landmark envisioned as an elevated promenade encircling the Guadalupe River Park. This thin occupiable line floats above the creek to create both a figure and place. At an urban scale, it inscribes an unmistakable urban figure, while up close, it provides active amenities for the surrounding community and park.

### Placemaking

Not a tower but rather a place, this proposal outlines an urban amenity designed to embrace a wide range of public uses – an act of place-making that overlays new programmatic possibilities on to its already rich park context below. Despite its apparent size, this raised promenade has a minimal footprint by resting on four strategically located piers on both east and west sites to bridge over the confluence. Visitors enter through these footings to rise to an elevated path dotted along its half mile length with a variety of outdoor and indoor environments filled with gardens, trails, lookouts, and several enclosed community and cultural amenities within.

The Ramble responds to the idea that a new landmark in the city needs to not only create a new visual anchor in the skyline, but become a useful piece of social infrastructure in the city.

### A Changing Profile

During the day The Ramble inscribes a thin line that crowns the Guadalupe River Park and is visible across the city, the mountains and the air. Given its size and changing elevation, it offers a changing profile from different vantage-points throughout the city. Much like Silicon Valley, it is an ambitious project that represents a culture in constant flux.

The structure's surface, made of a porous GRFC, appears heavy and solid in direct sun but allows for filtered views from within. At night, illuminated within it inscribes its luminous profile in the skyline. Any proposed lighting strategies are measured in relation to the environmental needs of the surrounding context to limit impact on the natural ecosystem.

### Sustainability Net-Zero

The Ramble is designed as a self-sustaining piece of urban infrastructure that achieves net-zero operations while minimizing adverse impact on its context. Embedded photo-voltaic cells are installed to generate the needed energy loads, while along its length, rainwater is collected, filtered, and stored in cisterns for general use. Heat-pumps and geothermal wells are used to provide cooling and heating needs in enclosed areas.