

## **CONFLUENCE AS ICON**

LEAPS & BOUNDS is the catalyst for a larger re-envisioning of San Jose as an active ecological, social and recreational corridor. At the epicenter of an emerging neighborhood with residential, commercial and cultural adjacencies, LEAPS & BOUNDS is uniquely positioned to become a vibrant destination. Nested inside the sculpture are park amenities such as a cafe, flexible community space and restrooms to draw in and support the community.

The curving sculptural forms are composed of a system of stiffened steel box beams. Triangular in section, the box beams are built of welded steel plates stiffened intermittently with transverse plates and steel purlins. The bridge and arch are supported at each end by large concrete piled mat foundations located outside the riparian zones and the box culvert easement.

Materially, LEAPS & BOUNDS is a medium to observe the qualities of light and water that are intrinsic to the site. The sculpture is clad in foamed aluminum panels - the surface subtly reflects the landscape and vibrant culture of San Jose. The panels are made from 100% recycled material. Embedded LED lights illuminate the sculpture at night and can be programmed by artists in celebration of holidays, events, and Sharks games!

## **SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE FOR THE PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT**

While aiming to create a cultural landmark, the project seeks to give back to the community. The park program is a reflection of the regional culture. The recreational space and bike paths promote an active lifestyle for a more healthy society.

To preserve the sensitive ecosystem, the riparian zone along the waterway is protected. The materials produced during the construction excavation phase will be reused to create landforms. By manipulating the topography, various micro-climate were created to provide habitat for a wide range of plants and animals.

The park is comprised of a series of rolling grass hills and native oak trees that celebrate the iconic landscape of the region and showcase seasonal change throughout the year. All the existing oak trees on site are to be transplanted within the new park to reduce the project's carbon footprint. Native plants are used throughout the project to reduce irrigation and maintenance needs.

Several stormwater treatment facilities are located in the low areas of the topography, to retain and clean the water before it discharges to the river. The wetland also performs as a flood control basin to retain water during flood events.