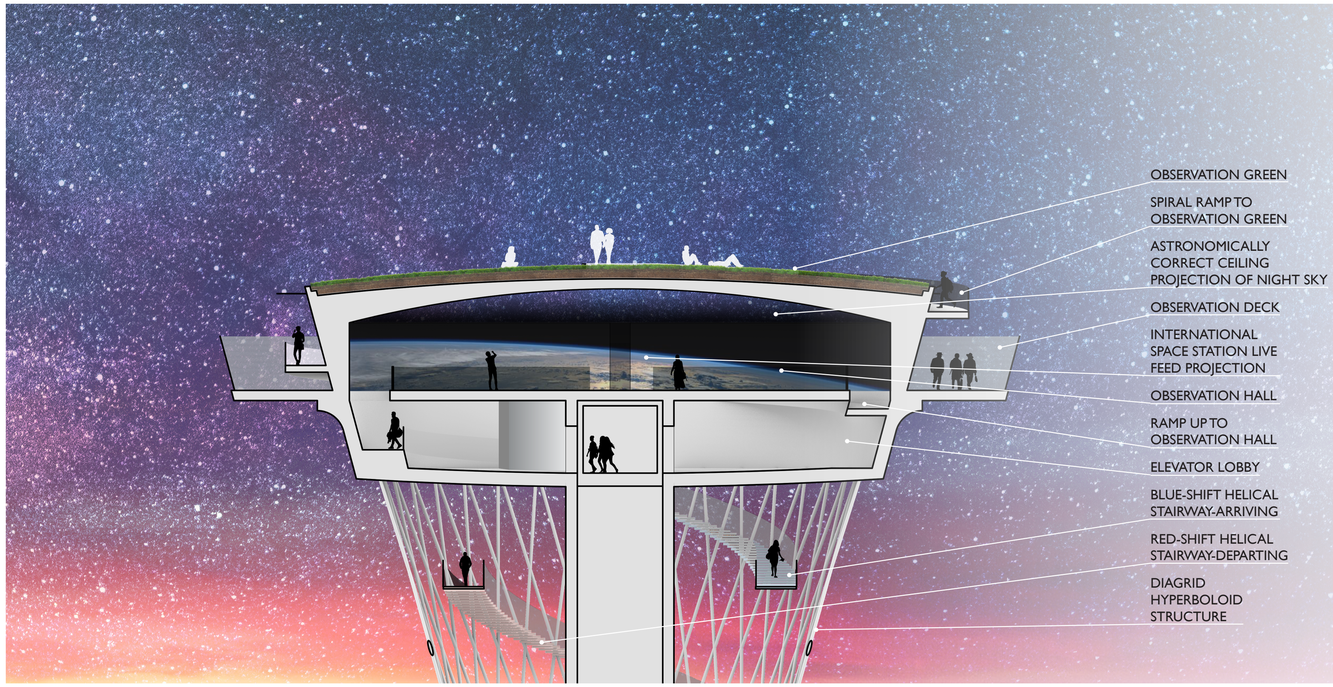
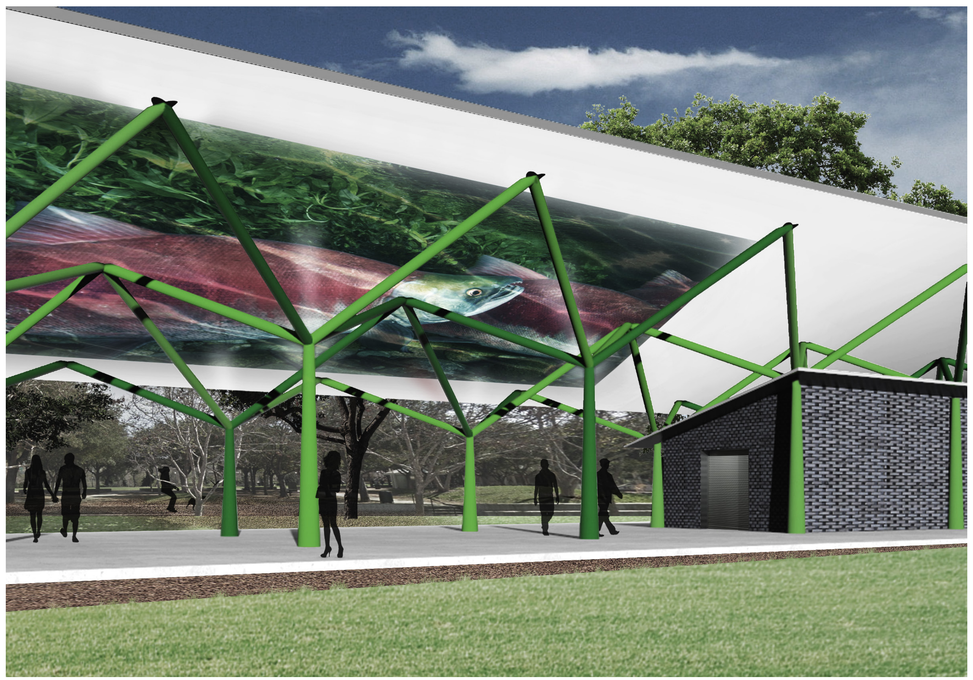
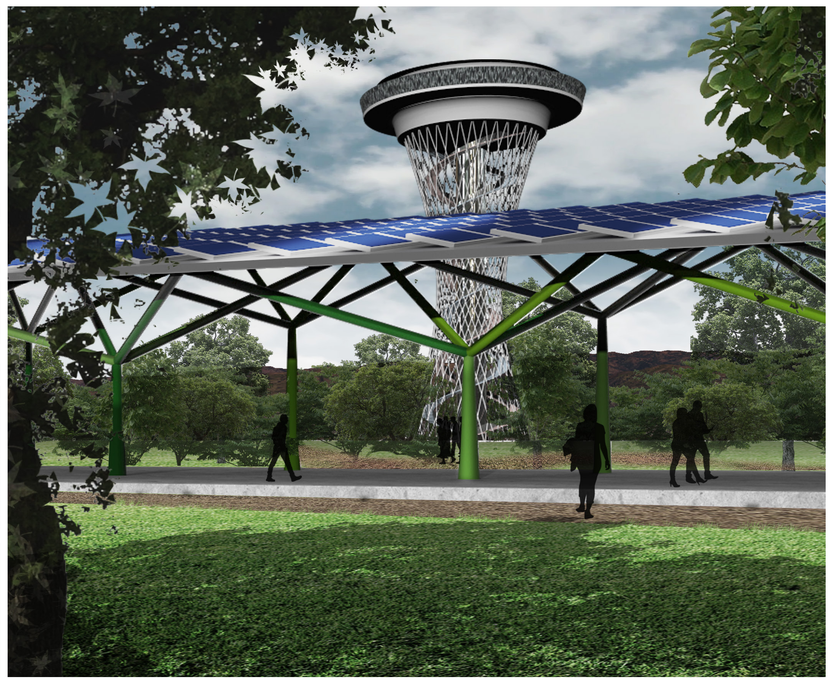


The Pie In The Sky is an architectural observation tower unlike any other - a spectacular parabolic outdoor lawn 200 feet in the air. An infinity edge allows viewers complete skyward observation, both day and night. An elegant double helix staircase defines the structure from a distance with subtle colorful ribbons. The tower is a destination for exercise and fitness, reflection, observation, and science. There are two associated structures; The Long House Pavilion acts as a laboratory for community gatherings. The Interpretive Center provides museum quality context and contrast to the tower.

Visitors can breathe and open their minds.



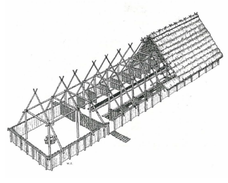


LONG HOUSE

The Long House Pavilion is a structure trying to emulate nature. As so often happens when we attempt to mimic complexity; idiosyncracy prevails. In an attempt to be tree-like - fitting into a wooded riparian environment - the Long House has adopted green, tree-like columns to support a 50' x 276' roof covered in solar panels. Like a tree, it seeks the sky and sunlight for energy. The Long House needs its own space, in the western wooded park area, overlooking the large lawn, the river confluence, and the Pie in the Sky across the way. The trapezoidal rooftop, covered edge to edge with over 500 solar panels generates 162kW of power in full sunlight, enough to power everything in the park with surplus for the regional electric grid.

Two 1000 SF structures at the North and South ends will each house restrooms and a small kiosks for food and beverage sales. The space in between will be left open for social gatherings of all kinds; space for maximum flexibility and use! Farm markets, dances, hammocks, picnics, concerts, and meetings…

On the ceiling of the Long House, an award winning film maker will project underwater footage of local salmon migration, important to the Pacific and Guadalupe Creek ecosystems. Giving voice and vision to this species will highlight the increasing ecological threats, and the importance of our waterways as central urban features.



SUSTAINABILITY

540 Panels @ 300W = 162kWh (maximum output)
5 hours/day @ 365 days/year = 295,650 kWh/year

Pie in the Sky = 10,000 SF interior space
Long House Pavilion = 2000 SF interior space
Target Energy Consumption: 180,000kWh / year

115,650kWh Net Excess Energy Produced / Year

Proposed Hardwood Trees to be planted = 204
CO_2 sequestration / tree = 48 lbs / year

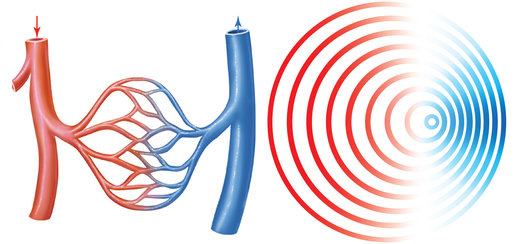
Peak CO_2 sequestration: 9600 lbs / year in 2030

RED SHIFT / BLUE SHIFT

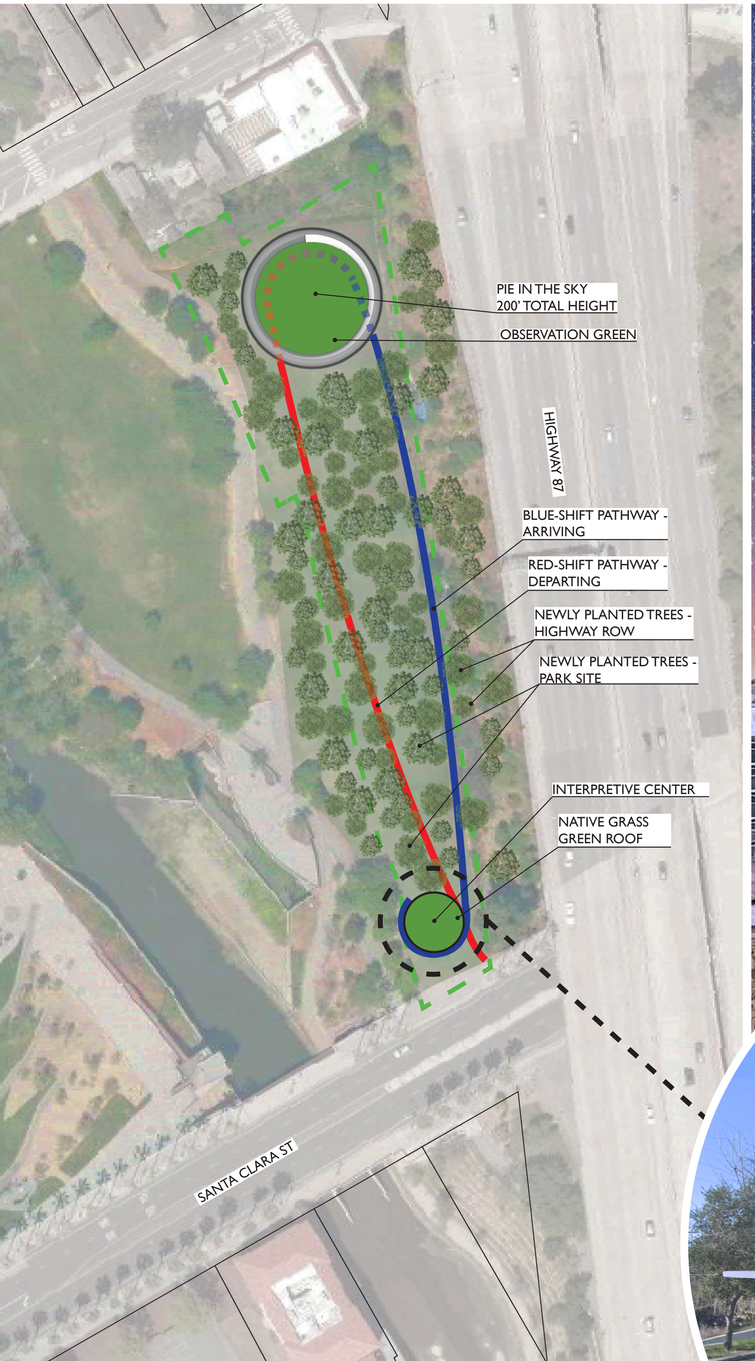
Human observation has identified similarities in the microcosm and macrocosm of our environment and the cosmos. When looking skyward we have learned that objects in outer space look red as they move away from us and appear blue when moving toward us, a Doppler Effect known as red shift / blue shift. We are forever traveling towards or moving away from other objects in space. The scales of time and distance are huge; billions of years. Millions of light years.

On a much smaller scale, the blood circulating through our bodies is red and blue. The red - oxygen rich blood flowing through arteries away from our heart and the blue - depleted blood flowing back to our heart to be recharged. The scales of time and distance are small; a heartbeat. The human body.

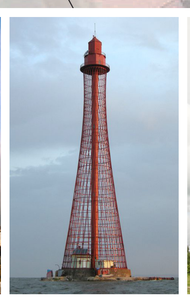
The Pie in the Sky attempts to relate human scale to that of the Earth and the Cosmos, and imbue humanity with respect for our planet.



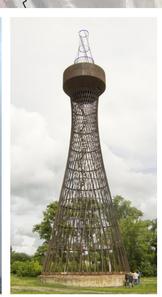
Science is defined as the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.



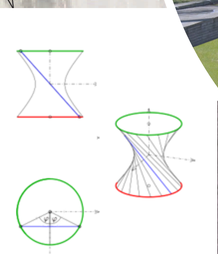
Kobe Port Tower, 1963



Shukhov Lighthouse, 1911



Shukhov Tower, 1896



Ruled Surface
Hyperboloid
Geometry