

My project hopes to address the net zero requirements of the presentation while being aesthetic addition to the San Jose skyline. Moreover, my offer is a place for public use and congregation while maintaining a sustainable built environment. One of the most pressing concerns of our generation is climate and this is something that needs to be reflected in contemporary architecture. It's not only using clean energy but also in the material, whether it be wood or aluminium or fiberglass or carbon fiber to make a powerfully commanding building that merges and becomes one with its environment. Today, I propose building with Insulated concrete forms and cool roofing that doesn't need much electrical power but is based, in part, on its design and how it uses naturally occurring air currents. These will help insure we are not harming the environment but preserving our ecosystem. Not to mention that the idea for the energy source of the building was originally hydroelectricity, but due to the environmental impact on the rivers this idea was scrapped. Likewise the main building or garden centerpiece/lookout tower could potentially serve as the main tower for an aerial lift for providing views and transportation around the downtown park and river. Thus, the coexistence of the built environment and nature needs to be the focus if long term conservation is successful. At the same time it is still possible to create an architectural masterpiece where people and nature can operate without clashing. I hope to incorporate garden elements in the final design too. In all honesty the Hanging Gardens of Babylon were definitely a part of my inspiration and I want to include this statement in the Project summary because unfortunately as an inexperienced computer assisted design drafter I couldn't really recreate that style or use as much greenery in the drafts, However, Singapore also has some amazing garden structures that while also being inspiration, they were too large in scale for what San Jose requires. Nevertheless a net-zero design that utilizes the existing landscape can reduce costs. Ultimately San Jose deserves a landmark which can be easily distinguishable/marketable but also unprecedented to stand out internationally. That's why I think my design (or at the very least some aspects of it) is capable of being expanded into a grander, all-encompassing project familiar to Californians but still exotic to visitors of San Jose and Silicon Valley.