PROJECT STATEMENT: Harmonic Convergence

The park can be a spiritual center for San Jose. But it needs connectivity to its context, programs to attract visitors, and energy.

We activate the entire site as a flexible, exciting recreational urban zone connected to the surrounding downtown fabric and strengthening it.

1. New paths, in loops, define zones within the park. Each loop has a programmatic focus. The paths, with a new, cruciform bridge at center, join the two sides of the river as well as the north and south. The bridge becomes a destination.

2. We overlay a 40 ’hexagonal grid over the site. Each module, or cell, is on the new power grid we create.

3. We program some of the cells: food stalls, maker labs, bathrooms, art sites, garden features, farmers market. The phasing of these cell programs is flexible and can adjust to resources and conditions.

4. At dusk the landscape becomes an immersive dreamscape of light, designed by an experienced light artist on the design team, that shows us something we don’t normally notice: patterns that echo the rhythms of nature herself, displayed with energy captured on-site.

Inclusiveness
Public spaces in which everyone is welcome are critical to urban life. One of many steps to heal our cities is to nurture inclusive public spaces where diverse people gather to participate joyfully together. Harmonic Convergence will draw folks from all neighborhoods to encounter each other constructively. This proposal is *about* life: about energy and our shared human energy that binds us together.

Covid-19
This project is conceived in optimism for the imminent time when we can again gather in public. We recognize the seriousness of the pandemic but also that ingenuity will find a solution. We don’t show people wearing masks but acknowledge that they will be necessary for a while.

Sustainability
The roofs are translucent photovoltaic panels. As each pavilion emerges from the landscape, its roof orients southward to receive electromagnetic rays, converting them to energy. The roofs collect and store all the power for the programs and the lighting. We construct the pavilions in cross-laminated timber (CLT), a beautiful, clean, sustainably harvested material.

ENERGY DRAW	ENERGY (kWh/sqft)	
Lighting	9	
Equipment	5	
Heating + Cooling	5	
Ventilation	2	
Water Heating	0.25	
PROGRAM DEMAND	**ENERGY (kWh/sqft)**	
Food Service Facility	56	
Retail Mall	23	
Public Assembly Building	15	
Warehouse	9	
ENERGY DEMAND	**AREA (SQFT)**	**DAILY ENERGY NEEDED**
Total Area (w/ bridge)	220000	
Site Area	208000	
Hex Area Single	1385.64	
Bridge	18000	
Lighting Area	22000	542
Food Service Facilities	1155	177
Makerspace	4500	185
Eventspace	4500	185
Farmers Market	8000	197
Total demand per day (kWh)		**1287**
ENERGY GENERATION	**QUANT.**	**ENERGY (kWh)**
PV Panels 400 watt (40 per hex)	18	80
Total generated per day (kWh)		**1440**