

[I – CONIC] SAN JOSÉ SCULPTURAL CORTEN STEEL STRUCTURE

WITH A CONIC EXOSKELETON BIONICAL SURFACE DESIGN

PROJECT STATEMENT:

The I-Conic features a conic exoskeleton bionical surface design which appears as an distinctive unique landmark and gate to the City of San Jose. The overall look shows also a slightly reminescence to the former Owen's Electric Tower tower established in the year 1881.

The sculpture with a total height of 200 foot consists of fifteen levels surrounded by a conic freeform punched facade inspired by bionical structures. A staircase can be installed around the inner core for technical maintenance and support. The lower levels shall be also used as visitors platforms and exhibition space. By using the levels as fastening platforms for installation of lightshows of all kind the construction, depending on purpose, works like a light modulator if illuminated from the inside giving an expressive bold image viewed from distance.

The design is recommended to use corten steel, which is an amazing sturdy material that has excellent construction characteristics. Ones coated with rust the process is stopped and leads to an amazing visual surface that is perfect for outdoor installations even in most challenging weather conditions. There is no need for additional coating, cleaning and maintenance and a long term use is ensured. Another nice side effect is for sure that the surface comes to live by showing a certain patina over the years. This fits perfect for a beautiful blend of artistlike appearance, craftsmanship and hightech in a one of a kind manufacturing process.

The position is chosen at the east side area of the site plan nearby Highway 87 where St. Clara Street crosses the highway from downtown and leads to the confluence of Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek. Right here it closes the gap between highway and downtown showing people the way to an interesting recreational site ahead of the freeway which is worth to discover. A truly perfect position for an entrance sign that will be recognized as an attractive welcome icon from incoming traffic as well as a visual link if citizens and visitors approaching from downtown.