

A city as dynamic and unique as San Jose deserves more than a singular, conventional icon. It asks for a symbol that represents the importance of innovation and the strength in numbers. A new type of ecosystem that strengthens the relationship between nature and technology.

The **Digital Forest** plants itself respectfully off the banks at the confluence of the Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek. This new ecosystem is symbolic of the aspirational growth of San Jose yet maintains its roots in nature and people. Like San Jose, this symbol constantly adapts and redefines itself by giving the community agency to affect its appearance and leave their digital marks.

The design consists of digital columns that stretch up to 200 feet towards the California sky. The columns support elevated pathways and accessible ramps that connect to plazas at various heights. At the ground level, the base pedestals undulate with its permeable surfaces that store rainwater underneath for reuse as sustainable irrigation.

Whether day or night, the Digital Forest serves a variety of functions with integrated LED screens and audio speakers within the columns that create accessible and flexible technology for virtual calls, remote working and cultivating innovation.

The pedestals and elevated plazas create different spaces ideal for day activities like family gathering, farmers market and local artists exhibitions. During the evenings, events such as live concerts are synchronized with the digital columns in a symphony of light and music. In quieter scenarios, the Digital Forest collectively create a unique light show that attracts passersby while still being respectful to the surrounding wildlife and FAA regulations.

The Digital Forest exemplifies the harmonious relationship between nature and technology. All lighting and column displays will be sensor activated to conserve energy while serving the needs of the public. The interactive touch screens use amber, green, and blue colored displays that are non-reflective and certified by Wildlife Lighting Certification Program. All other light fixtures are up lit and shielded to prevent glare on the river. The LED touch screens combine integrated built-in solar panels that will provide the power needs of site. Further net-zero strategies include energy gathered from compact, vertical axis wind turbine embedded within engineered recycled timber and steel columns.

The Digital Forest will give back electricity to its city while revitalizing the site with new experiences and interactions unique to San Jose's culture of innovation and growth.