

## **Title: Common Ground**

### **Overview**

Given the dense tree canopy on the western portion of the site, the project proposes to locate the light tower on the eastern edge of the site. The base of the structure will be a museum for political activism and social change. Simultaneously, the upper part of the tower is a 200' open lattice structure for light and multimedia projection. The optimized structural form acknowledges technological advancement and reflects a cultural shift from a shimmering object to identifying urban forms that can constitute a new role for architecture and the city.

### **Structure**

The tower is constructed from cross-laminated timber (CLT), and intends to be a net-zero structure. The light tower shape, and its structural solution, respond to the intent not to create an expressive sculptural object, but a memorable public space.

### **Lighting**

The illumination of the structure at night defines the internal lattice array of wood columns and beams. The tower can alternate from dynamic LED light arrays to backlighting for moving picture displays.

### **Landscape**

The earth excavated from the sunken gallery space will be re-used to form a series of landforms for sculpture gardens and informal seating on the park's western edge. Organized as a series of circulation ribbons that weaves through the existing tree canopy, the circulation strategy for the site links the new programs with minimal site disruption.

### **Culture hub**

The new park provides a platform to project ideas of common ground symbolic for open public space. Conceived as an urban form to project art and moving images, The elevated surface becomes a backdrop for demonstrations. It highlights San Jose as a space for social awareness and public function.

### **Education and Gallery**

Located below the light tower, the gallery confronts the historical development of inequality and privilege in the United States.