

PINNACLE STATEMENT

San Jose is placed at the heart of Silicon Valley. It is a global magnet attracting ideas, talent, and investment motivated to improve peoples' lives. This is made possible by the exchange of ideas that includes people from diverse parts of the world with diverse experiences. Our design celebrates this notion of "inclusivity", that is the lifeblood of Silicon Valley. We present Pinnacle, a 185 ft high landmark structure built with light and durable carbon fiber reinforced polymer composites that provide a semi-shaded iconic space that is memorable and eventful. This structure represents inclusiveness, collaboration, and the notion of diversity that brings people together. Functionally it shades a sunken courtyard and a set of watchtowers. These spaces encourage people watching and public interaction. The watchtower allows users to experience the neighboring area of the site including the beautiful cityscape of San Jose from multiple levels (40 ft and 60 ft high).

The sunken court is adjoined by green grass mounds that inhabit spaces such as cafes, restaurants, bars, libraries, and interactive communal rooms (40k sqft area). The green mounds are designed to encourage outdoor sports activities such as running, hiking, biking, etc. More importantly, the sunken court is carefully designed to create a natural barrier between the interaction space and the natural riparian habitat that adjoins the site. Furthermore, we place a thick vegetative cover as a green park between the Guadalupe River and the sunken court to obstruct glare from artificial light at night. Our lighting design strategy places two kinds of light. The first is a LED strip channel lighting carefully encased in a carbon fiber reinforced polymer channel at the top of the Pinnacle. This design creates a continuous blue light source for diffused lighting at night, reducing glare and visual disturbance to the birds, insects, fishes, etc. The second light source is the LED spot lights placed on ground that is shielded by metal protectors and by the sunken courtyard's design. These lighting techniques allow the proposed space to be activated 18 hours a day and 7 days a week. Our proposed plan preserves the existing sculpture "Five Skaters" in its original location near the N Autumn street. However, we propose to relocate the pool to two entry plazas as seen in our site plan. We further relocate the children's carousel and the tot-lot playground into the green vegetation area near the river.