

Convergence and Catalysis

Urban Confluence at Arena Green – Project Statement

The new **Confluence Tower** will be an iconic landmark unique to San Jose.

Inspired by the confluence of the Los Gatos Creek and Guadalupe River, the tower will be a destination that slowly reveals more to the users as you approach the site. The tower will attract locals and visitors from all over the world but the other elements in the park will make the visitor experience much more meaningful.

The Art Walk, from The Five Skaters monument, along **The Wall**, then across **The Bridges** (Old Bridge) to the Confluence Point, reinforces a strong Public Art presence.

The culture of innovation in the San Jose region is celebrated in the design of the **Confluence Tower**. The Iron Ribbon recalls the past in materiality and construction. Anchored below the **Lookout**, the Iron Ribbon supports the entire weight of the tower. Symbolizing the Future, the brushed Stainless Steel Ribbon relies on the Iron Ribbon for support but seems to defy gravity by only lightly touching the ground on Confluence Point. The Future builds on the Past. The Past is the Foundation for the Future. The two ribbons converge to create something new. The design and construction approach is symbolic of the culture of innovation in the region.

The new **Lookout** hill creates infrastructure to accommodate more events and functions. There are also more public and user-friendly options for relaxation or recreation. Imagine lunch on the **Terrace Steps**, kids running on the hill, people-watching on the **Art Walk** from the **Lookout** or enjoying a live concert or outdoor movie while seated on the **Terrace Steps**. The hill will also be a buffer to reduce road noise.

The new **Lookout** hill will also serve to protect the watercourse and riparian habitat by creating a physical separation from the more intensely-used public areas of the park.

The Orchard recalls San Jose's history as a fruit producer and is a psychological buffer from the urban setting.

The LED lighting on the Tower Ribbons is powered by a kinetic charging system built into **The Bridges**. The energy from footsteps will be captured as people move through the site. Power for the **Terrace Steps** lighting, and additional lighting within the park, will be generated by photovoltaics in the glass safety guards. The integrated photovoltaics in the glass will also protect birds as the photovoltaics are semi-opaque and more visible to birds. Resulting energy use is NET ZERO.