

Project Statement “the HEART: of the valley”

(400 Words excluding Title)

Silicon Valley serves as a global center for high technology, innovation, and social media and at the confluence of the Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek, will be an ICON that will not only define Silicon Valley but honor its past and reflect the culture of the people. Prior to Silicon Valley, Santa Clara was known as the “Valley of the Heart’s Delight” for its beautiful fruit orchards, flowering landscapes and canneries that serviced the world. As the center of the agricultural production, it was the people of the valley that provided heart and soul of this region that then has transformed into a digital highway to connect minds and hearts to people of the world. Icons around the world have always been figurative in nature or architectural. “The Heart” is a gateway double arch in shape of a symbolic human heart that will not only transform the region but serve as place for love, hope, and strength to the World. The Icon Project is composed of three elements: Heart Icon, Digital Highway Bridge and Pool of Reflection.

“The Heart”

At the maximum height allowance of 200’, “The Heart” is a 30’ wide twisting triangular section in a shape of a symbolic Heart. Located on top of a landmark fountain and below ground entry lobby and digital museum, visitors will descend into a lower level park and entrance into the Heart Sculpture. A series of elevators similar to design of St Louis Arch will allow visitors to ascend 20 stories up into a 2 story glass atrium with views of the City and Valley below.

“Digital Highway Bridge”

Connecting both sides of the park is an iconic bridge composed of glass, stone and programmable LED’s. The bridge will lead guests to explore over the river into the park and to the “Pool of Reflection”. Photovoltaic skin is embedded within the panels of the binary code glass etchings that collect energy and provide power to “The Heart” sculpture and associated site lighting.

“Pool of Reflection”

At the end of the “Digital Highway Bridge” is a public swimming/reflecting pool, outdoor covered market pavilions with green roofs and 20’ stainless steel rotating text sculpture with the word “Heart”.

“The Heart” Icon will further enhance Silicon Valley’s global influence on providing high technology and innovation but now with emphasis as provider from people, from a City with soul, spirit and HEART.