

Light of the Valley is an outdoor community center in San Jose, California for creative individuals that inspire innovation in the Silicon Valley region. It is a place for the community to admire the past ideations of inventive individuals and a place where future ones can be imagined. Inspiration comes from the many influential technology companies that make up the Silicon Valley area. The employees that make up these large companies have developed many innovative products that have simply started out as a creative idea. By incorporating the symbol of a light bulb, which has always meant “Idea” in our society, a symbolic icon for the community is created. It signifies the importance of the ideation process and the impact of the constant innovations developed in this region.

Visitors can choose to spend their time collaborating with other professionals, focus on individual work, or take a break from a hectic work week. To admire the beauty of the surrounding landscape, a giant light bulb tower creates an icon for the community with a 360-degree view from elevated observation areas. At night, the icon entertains with a stunning light show that uses lighting techniques to minimize negative impacts to the ecosystem, such as time clock controls. On the grounds, visitors can appreciate the history of the companies that make up Silicon Valley in an informative river walk, work in personal creative spaces or collaborate with coworkers in shared spaces. In order to refresh the brain, numerous activities and games allow for interaction and some friendly competition.

Dedicated park space allows the community to hold large scale public events including concerts, festivals or farmers markets. When there is not a public event, visitors can choose to immerse themselves in nature and enjoy the beautifully designed landscape, home to many trees and plant species. By incorporating LED lighting, fed by renewable energy sources such as solar panels, the building will work to achieve Zero Net Energy by producing as much energy as it consumes. Energy can also be saved by using light colored roofs to reflect heat and high efficiency windows that reflect light wavelengths and absorb less heat. Light of the Valley appeals to everyone with its numerous activities, outstanding landscape and renewable energy sources. Simply put, Light of the Valley allows for ideation, collaboration and rejuvenation.