

Placemaking is defined by “is a multi-faceted approach to the planning, design and management of public spaces. Placemaking capitalizes on a local community's assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and well-being.” No one symbol or color can capture the spirit of place. That takes people. The smells of food cooking, music playing, kid riding their bikes, tall trees blowing in the wind and a large open space to take it all in. So, let us give the community a place that nature inspired while preserving the natural features that draw us there in the first place. La Montaña del Pueblo will form out of the ground reaching towards the sky while connecting and creating a convergence point to appreciate the nature below and the rolling terrain of innovation that surrounds.

La Montaña del Pueblo captures the spirit of innovation through the development of the site. Engineering of the wall and spanning the rivers while protecting existing natural features and preserving waterways. Some trees will have to be removed as part of the project, but the intent is to save as many as possible and to create different zones of elevation. Pathways and trails will blend into existing trees that are under the mountain giving shaded, usable public space in the space under La Montaña. On top of the mountain is a public space with a view of the entire city where music will be playing, vendors and restaurants supply food, bike paths provide access... a central park in the sky.

The energy used to power this mountain will be supplied by the structure itself. The external panels of the mountain will be fitted with solar technology to harness the sun. Each of the terraced walls will contain green roof plantings and the floor of the La Montaña will be permeable paving that will allow all rainwater to be collected, stored, and reused on site.

At all times, the environment is the foremost inspiration for this design. The lights and sound from the surrounding city and Highway 87 are disruptive to the existing fauna and flora especially at night. La Montaña del Pueblo will shelter the key areas of the Los Gatos Creek and the Guadalupe River by giving the river banks a sheltered surround and not disrupting the existing waterway. It will provide a cove for wildlife to flourish.