

Project statement

Times of crisis, affecting us all, we need more human connection, our voices to be heard, a space that belongs to all.

The Tree of San Jose - A dialog between humans and nature

West side

I propose

A **structure** with a very meaningful presence that will resonate with all.

The foundation is a **community discovery center** called "The roots". The space will belong to **all**, to discover, to exchange life and culture.

An amphitheater as the welcoming mat. An invitation.

The building materials will be recycled, renewable and locally sourced, implementing the **net zero design building principles on sustainability and 0 carbon footprint**, displaying new materials and technologies.

The structural shapes that are found in nature, like the honeycomb type structure will be used. It will harvest sun energy through its "leaves" of mini solar tiles, with a design to minimize glare.

The height of the structure is 190'.

An elevator for access to panoramic views is proposed.

Solar panels and wind energy will supply the power requirements. Also possibly gather power from off-site located solar farms.

The exact placement location will be determined upon existing trees survey and other site restrictions. The footprint of the carousel and of the playground will take priority. Hopefully no tree will be cut. The north playground area will be redesigned. I want to propose a space specifically for children.

Light as a communicator.

The profile of the shape will be illuminated. Like a line drawing on the night sky.

The light, observing the lighting guidelines to protect the wildlife, will be shielded and kept to a minimum level of luminance. Will avoid the use of any UV wavelengths.

The light will be adjusted or shut off during bird migration time. Those changes in the lighting pattern will act as communicators of the respect towards the natural habitat.

East Side

I propose

A Sustainable **community garden**, a solar farm and wind turbines. This garden will be located in place of the tennis courts. It will solidify the community **participation**, interaction and education, as well as **providing** food for the members of the community.

River

I would also like to propose a kayak station where people can borrow kayaks and enjoy the river.

I wish to **connect** West and East internally. Could we cross the river on the water? A barge? Kayaks? Boats?