

PERSIS DOME

Is it not the brilliant mathematicians of our past, that have shaped our present? Some of the greatest minds in history were from Persia, or Persis, and in a way, is it not their contributions to humankind how we got here, to Silicon Valley...

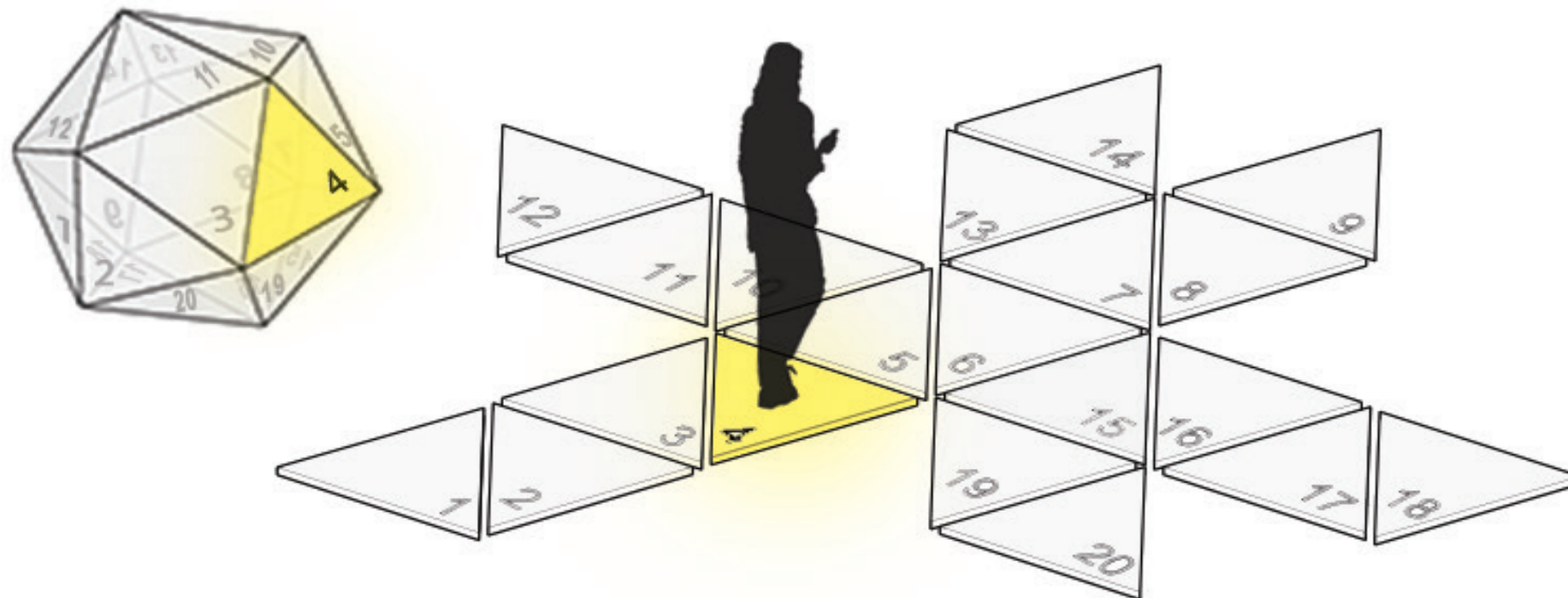
PROJECT OVERVIEW

At the confluence of two urban rivers, the Persis Dome awaits to illuminate San Jose's rapidly changing skyline. With the quiet inception of the first modern computers in Silicon Valley, the world perpetually changed. This project is an analogy to the Digital Era where physical barriers have no meaning and the world often feels as small as a village. Yet this robust digital network is invisible to the naked eye. Through the interaction of light between the pressure-sensitive pathway panels and the sphere's triangulated façade, this project seeks to materialize the digital environment and each individual's contribution to its whole.

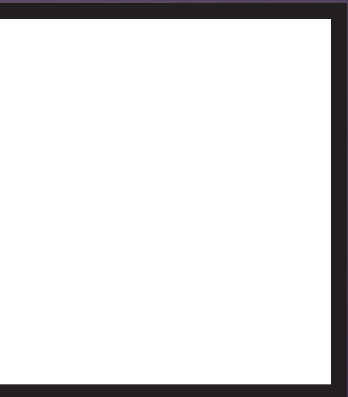
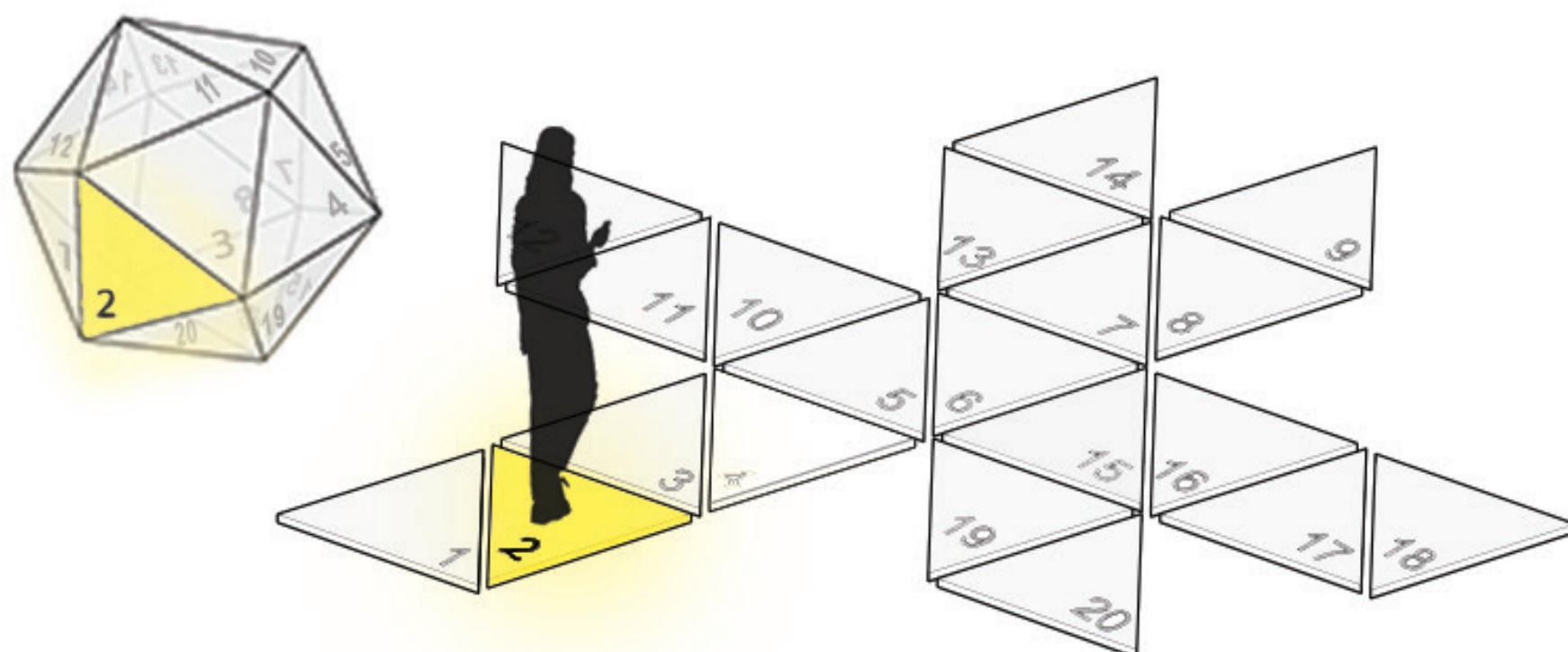
As a work of architecture, the beauty of this design lies in its elegant incorporation of technology – a series of triangular pathway tiles connected to triangular façade tiles. One pathway tile is linked to one façade tile using sensors. The pressure from a footstep causing a pathway tile to light up, will cause its associated triangular façade tile to illuminate as well. Design flexibility is another key feature – the pathways can be arranged in any way to minimize wildlife disturbance or maximize visitor interactivity, for example. San Jose residents and tourists alike are invited to go on casual walks along these pathways, enjoy unique foods at nearby restaurants and admire Silicon Valley's past, present and future inside the Persis Dome.

Through one-of-a-kind exhibitions found on three levels inside the Persis Dome, tourists can learn more about Silicon Valley's vibrant history as well as its technologically rich and hopeful future. While the outdoor pathways are accessible to all, these exhibitions and the viewing platform on the fourth level can be accessed by paying a nominal entrance fee, one way to generate economic activity. Additionally, tourist shops of any kind can open in the surrounding plazas - unique restaurants, souvenir shops and apparel stores are but a few suggestions.

CONCEPT



In its simplest form, the concept of the Persis Dome can be represented by a triangulated sphere representing the main spherical structure of the project. Each triangular façade tile is associated with one pathway tile. Tiles with the same number label, in this case "4", light up at the same time.

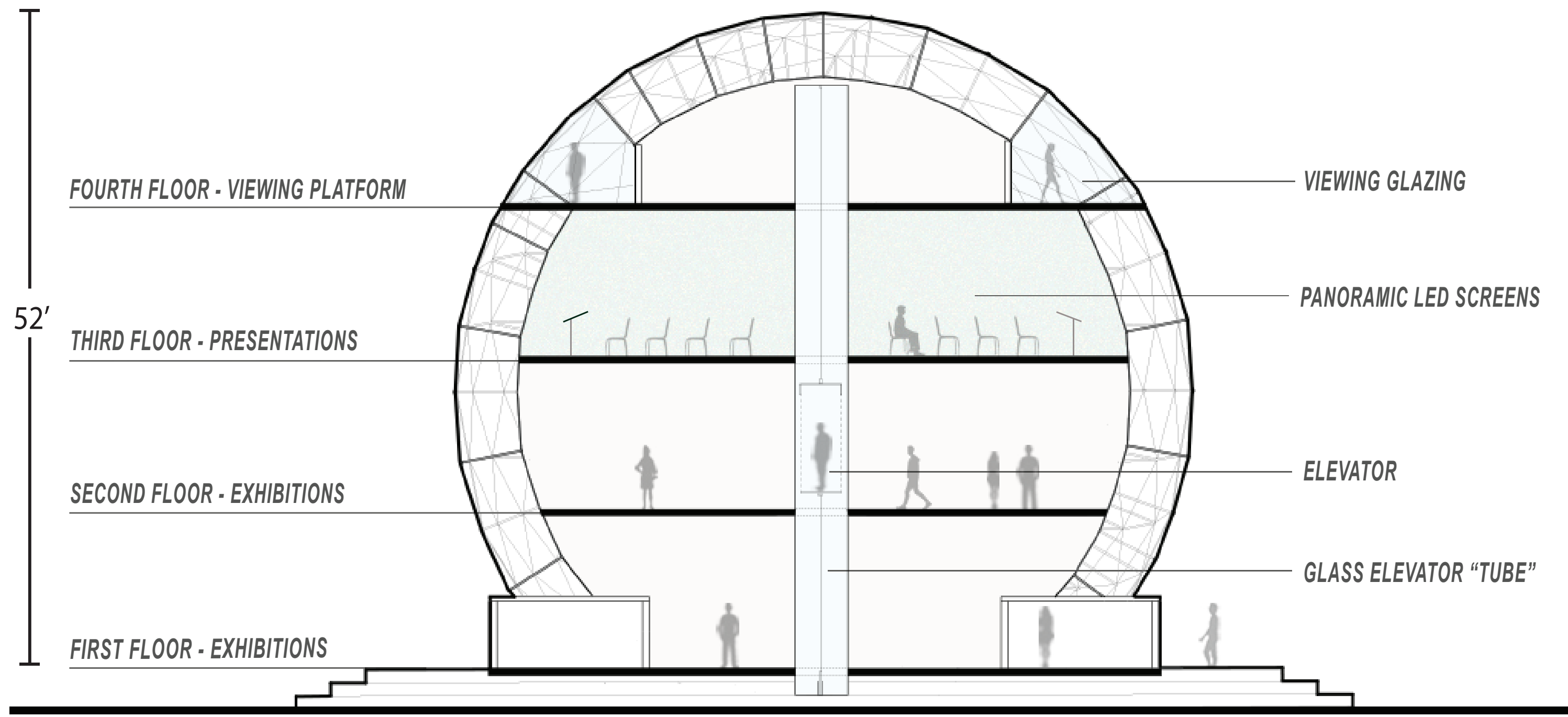




- BLEACHERS WITH SOLAR PANEL SHADE
- EXISTING PLAYGROUND
- NEW ELEMENTS
- HIGHWAY 87 SAFETY BARRIER
- TREES
- PEH TECHNOLOGY

DESIGN FLEXIBILITY & SITE ACTIVATION

The site map above illustrates a suggested pathway layout for the pathway tiles associated with the main spherical structure. The beauty of this project is the ease with which these pathways can be relocated to minimize disturbance to the existing nature and wildlife with no negative impact on the project's concept or use. Benches will be placed along the pathways to allow users to socialize, admire nature, rest, etc. in the same way that typical park benches are used. Furthermore, the trees that will have to be relocated to make space for the project's main structure and pathways can be placed near the Guadalupe River along the Los Gatos Creek Trail to provide the river's wildlife greater protection from the project's concentrated human activity and display of lights. On the East side, the tennis court grounds can be converted to a temporary stage for outdoor concerts or other free cultural events, thus increasing the park's use and activity. The bleachers near the tennis court grounds serve a dual purpose in providing comfortable, shaded seating for an audience and, at the same time, they provide additional energy through solar panels placed on top of the bleacher's shading structure. To maintain safety for drivers on the adjacent highway, a tall concrete safety barrier will serve to protect drivers from bright lights and other distractions. Moreover, the existing carousel is proposed to be replaced or renovated as a vertically raised structure. Resultantly, users will experience breathtaking views of Persis Dome and the rest of the park from this new carousel. Of course, all necessary safety measures will also be implemented.

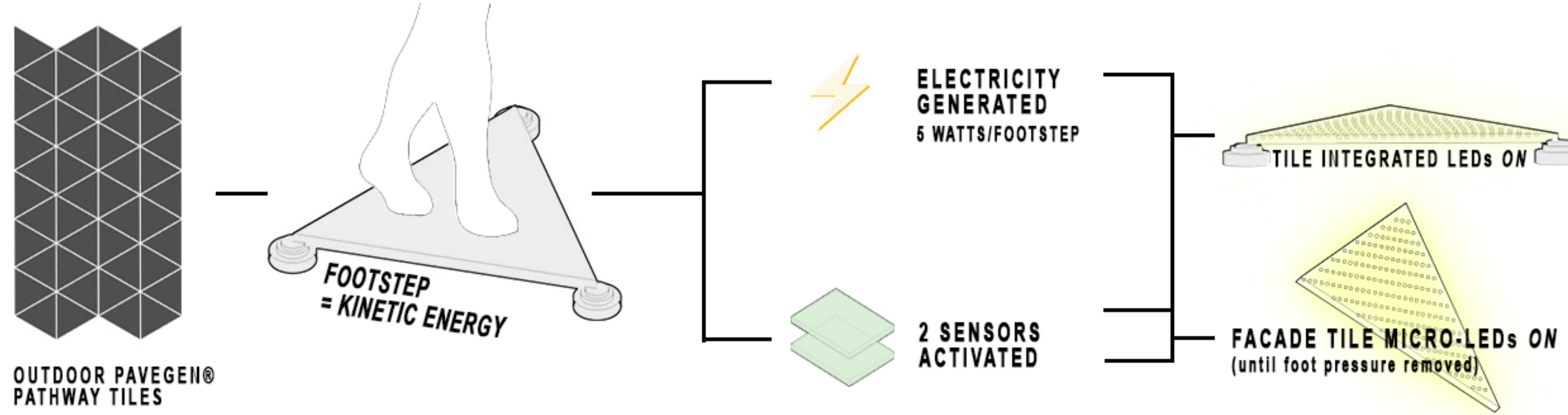


While on the outside, the interactive pathways are accessible to all, inside Persis Dome, the exhibitions on three levels of the structure can be accessed after paying an entrance fee, thereby encouraging economic activity. These exhibitions will showcase and celebrate new, futuristic ideas and technologies representing Silicon Valley's long-standing reputation in innovation. We propose exhibiting various technologies on the first and second levels, while the third floor will serve as a "conference" area with presentations discussing pressing issues and solutions. This floor will be accompanied by floor-to-ceiling panoramic screens to display fascinating visuals which will enhance all discussions.

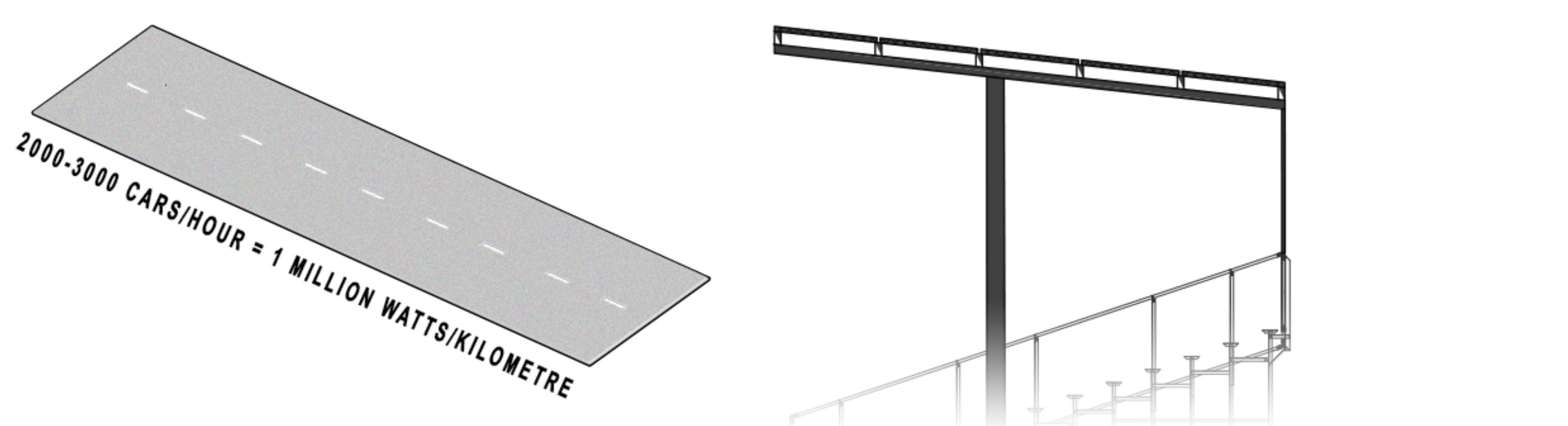


During the daytime only, the exhibitions and viewing platforms inside Persis Dome will be open to the public. The viewing platform, found on the fourth floor of the structure, will provide breathtaking panoramic views of San Jose's skyline, including all of its impressive architecture, nature and glimpses of the diverse landscapes seen in the distance, such as the surrounding mountains.

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