

## THE MOTHER BOARD

Our proposal is an homage to the computer and the life changing role it played in the development of Silicon Valley. From its initial creation to the ubiquity of its presence in our lives as well as the key to future discoveries, the computer epitomizes the inventiveness of the Valley.

The architecture of our proposal is generated by the imagery and forms of the world of computers: The “mother board” chips, memory cards, optical drive, processors, slots, drivers, monitors, keyboards, mouse, etc. The super scale of this vocabulary translates into delightful spaces ‘inside’ the world of computers and an awareness of the unique visual characteristic of the computer world. “A mother board for you to navigate...and for the world”.

Located on the East Arena Green adjacent to and interfacing with Route 54, we propose a structure composed of two levels of park related activity spaces. Topped by eight black glass plinths (60’ wide x 135’ high), like memory cards or monitor screens, they, and the architecture of the two levels, below evoke the form vocabulary of usual computer components. Each plinth is constructed of a series of solar (PV) panels and digital screens. In addition to power, they provide a variety of images...an electronic billboard that can, at interim times, project colors, highlights of significant events and abstract images, or simply stay black...the endless “projector”. The lower level of activities consists of public food service, public amenities, and galleries that graphically display the Valley story. The upper level is a terrace garden, our “mother board” of a layout. Green space and sitting areas to appreciate the impact of the eight glass plinths as well as the Guadalupe River Park. Transitioning between the upper and lower levels is a grand stair which doubles as amphitheater space for the park.

Along the eastern edge of our proposal is a 600’ eco-water wall with plants and water features, symbolizing the importance of the Bay Area while creating a visual and sound buffer between the park and the highway.

Emblematic of the Valley’s past, present, and future, as well as providing good neighbor activities within the context of the Guadalupe River, the dramatic yet simple elegance of the eight glass plinths are both impactful to the park, the urban skyline, and the passing Route 54 motorists, and symbolic of the connectivity of them all.