

PROJECT STATEMENT

THE TOWER OF INNOVATION for Silicon Valley's landmark is to create an iconic and meaningful monument and to make a playful and educational place. The impressive icon of the tower is "light bulb" formed of many "0" and "1" components, a unique physical presence in the world, that reflects the extraordinary legacy of Silicon Valley as the world's epicenter of innovation. The steel structure of the tower shapes the track for a gondola to move along for sight-seeing, while supporting the "light bulb" that clearly manifests the indispensable meaning "INNOVATION". The spherical gondola has a diameter of 3 meters and can accommodate up to 6 passengers. It trips forward and backward between west and east area of the project site along the rail mounded on the structure outline. Adding more gondolas is available for more visitors to view the cityscape at one ride.

For lighting, each "0"/"1" component is built in LED fixture and LED lighting belts are fixed on the structure according to the designed lighting patterns. To minimize the impact on the surrounding natural environment, the light source is limited within blue spectrum, the effect shifts from one mode to another mode for kinetic lighting, and it is controlled by a computer program.

The strategy of site planning in this design is to create a playful place where education and inspiration are given. The main features include a educational maze garden and a path of "fame walk", that are related Silicon Valley's theme "computer" and "innovation". The educational maze, look like a "integrated circuit board", has clue signs related to computer knowledge in all intersections, that guide players to pick right way to destination. A path of "fame walk" is designed to celebrate the contributions of computer pioneers. Their names and footprints are molded on the pavement of the "fame walk" for inspiring future generation to follow their footprints for exploring new world of computer technology.

Cafes, restaurants, gift shop are organically located on the west side area of the project site. Only one existing tennis court and some trees are needed to be relocated, and the plaza at south-west corner of Arena Green is modified for this site planning.

To meet the net-zero energy design requirements, capacity of gondola and use time will be considered, and lighting mode and lighting time will be better programmed for minimizing the energy consumption.