URBAN CONFLUENCE SILICON VALLEY

PROJECT SUMMARY – NAVIGATOR

The South Bay's tidal wetlands are in the process of a decades-long environmental restoration project, aimed at recovering vital habitats for birds along the Pacific Migratory Flyway while acting as a buffer to flooding and sea level rise.

The park aims to mirror the management function of tidal wetlands in water storage and filtration. Taking advantage of the scale of new Downtown West Development, the main glade of the park covers a 70,000 gallon cistern, as well as a treatment and filtration system for greywater and storm runoff resulting in net-*positive* water usage. This infrastructure could manage non-potable water for all new downtown development, storing it for reuse in irrigation, municipal street cleaning, and local facility use.

The Arena Green is reimagined using imagery from the wetlands, reshaping the natural forms and colors into engaging public spaces. The park both offers venues for recreation and events as well as opportunities to learn about the ecosystem's flora and fauna through educational signage and a small visitor's center with available classroom space.

Rising up from the park stands the *Aviary*, a 160-foot-tall dynamic sculpture. Cutting a silhouette that has both classical simplicity and contemporary elegance, the *Aviary is* an object of wonder: a massless column of suspended electrochromic glass that manipulates captured light to dance in flight. Simulated birds flit, flock, swoop, and circle as their algorithms respond to park activity as well as to each other. Reinforced steel columns hold the *Aviary* at the center of an observation deck that winds 25' upwards from the plaza to picturesque views of the sculpture and neighborhood.

The *Aviary* serves as a contemporary icon that will draw the wonder of both locals and tourists, a centerpiece for downtown arts and culture events and a symbol of beauty and life at the doorway of Silicon Valley.