

## **-THE MONOLITH-**

### Project Statement

The Monolith is designed to both reflect and celebrate all the communities and cultures that make up Silicon Valley. The monumental structure will serve as a point of pride for the people as well as a constant reminder of the impact the area that, for multiple decades, has been the golden example of innovation, and always looking above and beyond into the future. The structure meets the requirement of being monumental and unique, providing striking-yet different views from every angle and depending on different times of the day and night. The monumental structure, an architectural as well as engineering marvel will also contain two large elevators built into it that would allow for guests to get to the top where they will have panoramic views of the entire valley. On the smaller east side site, the addition of an elevated, covered walking path as well as areas for local artists to share their work with the community will help turn the location into more of a point of interest for locals as well as visitors.

The Monolith respects the site using very simple landscape design beyond the area of the monument. The simple manipulation of the site beyond The Monolith will also allow for minimal construction work beyond what is needed for the structure. Outside of the structure, which is 200 feet high, the rest of the site is low, creating minimal obstruction for birds. In addition, the color of the structure and its low level of reflection makes it easier for birds to spot from a distance and avoid. The balance between having a striking lighting element and not creating a huge distraction for birds and fish is achieved through putting the most striking lighting element under the canopy facing north and multiple levels of foliage between the structure and the river.

In addition to the ways The Monolith respects the site, the project aims to make enough power to return some back into the grid. The elevated pathway on the east smaller site will have canopies with solar panels attached to the top and will be able to harvest rainwater which will be collected through the tubes. On the western much larger site, custom lamps have been designed throughout the site that will also gather electricity.