

People's Tower

The concept-design proposal for the "San Jose Light Corporation Tower," San Jose, USA, aims to focus on the integration of "nature", "technology" and "community participation" towards the creation of an icon for the future combating climate change governed by net-zero design principles.

Eleven thousand five hundred twenty (11,520) potted plants form the tower's skin to create arguably the tallest "green" tower on the planet built through community participation. Each of these potted plants would be sown and nurtured by the members/representatives of the community and other stakeholders before being deployed to form the tower's green skin. In the real sense of the word, this tower would be built by the people towards the creation of an iconic landmark.

Once installed, these potted plants would be maintained and nurtured deploying innovations in drone and robotic technologies in collaboration with Silicon Valley. Swarms of Drones and Robotic Technologies would be deployed to monitor and maintain the plants. Plant species' health would be monitored in real-time using image scanning combined with application technologies, including remote sensing. Recycled water mists would be sprayed through vertical feed lines embedded into the tower infrastructure.

Plants have served humans as protective shields against illness and disease since time immemorial. They provide both physical and psychological comfort, including improvement of air quality and reduction of stress levels. A simple handheld "potted plant," a universal household symbol representing our basic primordial human instinct for life and survival, has been applied to create an icon for the future. Thousands of pots come together to echo ideologies such as unity, peace, tolerance, pluralism, empathy, and compassion towards life and nature.

This tower in the park rises vertically housing observatory decks at varying levels capped by a community-amphitheatre at 200 feet offering panoramic vistas. The tower imbibes net-zero design principles and also promotes universal accessibility. A spiralling ramp and elevator-core serve as primary circulation elements.

The "People's Tower," has a minimal "compact" footprint. This prevents an imbalance of the site's existing ecosystem by the unnecessary removal of trees and damage of green cover. Any trees disturbed would be transplanted at an appropriate location. The tower has been designed and sited, keeping this important consideration in mind.

The "People's Tower" celebrates and recognizes the role and contribution of the people in the act of nation-building addressing the confluence of "nature," "art," & "technology" to create a legacy for future generations.