

FW: May 4th Agenda Item 7.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 5/3/2021 3:45 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

200 East Santa Clara St.

San Jose , CA 95113

408-535-1254

From: P Michael HUnt <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 3:41 PM**To:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** May 4th Agenda Item 7.1

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

As a resident of Santa Clara County for over 70 years, I want to add my positive vote for the “Breeze of Innovation”. I strongly support the vision of Urban Confluence Silicon Valley to create a magnificent landmark for our city. Breeze of Innovation offers a unique opportunity to re-define our downtown core. I believe it is the perfect time to encourage the people of San Jose to embrace this exceptional gift. It is a poetic and inclusive design that represents a “once-in-a-generation” moment to build an artistically inspired icon that will define our region visually and give a meaningful gift to all of our families, the City of San Jose, Silicon Valley, and the world.

This privately funded project will use absolutely no funds from the city to build, operate, or maintain the project. We look forward to your approval of this design, allowing this project to move forward. Breeze of Innovation will bring pride and economic growth to San Jose and Silicon Valley.

Sincerely,

P Michael Hunt



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: The wrong project for Arena Green

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 5/3/2021 3:58 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thank you!

Best Regards,
Pawandeep Kaur

CITY OF SAN JOSE | OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

200 East Santa Clara St.

San Jose , CA 95113

408-535-1254

From: Bill Rankin <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2021 3:58 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: The wrong project for Arena Green

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and San Jose City Councilmembers,

The project chosen for the art piece at Arena Green is simply the wrong choice for this location. For starters, there is simply not enough green, open, park space in the Diridon Station Area Plan to begin with, and to gobble up this much open space for this project is not thinking into the future.

An even more important reason to turn down this plan is that it is an environmental disaster. As we all know in our hearts, the confluence of the Los Gatos Creek with The Guadalupe River is an incredibly sensitive environmental area with migratory bird flyways and salmon runs and areas where beaver and other creatures call home. I think we are all finally realizing that living in harmony with the environment is not only good for the animal inhabitants that live there, but it is also good for humans as well as the long-term health of our city and beyond. Up to this point, the planning for the DSAP has been incredibly mindful of this environmentally sensitive area. Let's not abandon that established direction now.

If the final selection had been something along the lines of Chicago's "Bean" perhaps there could have been a space for the project at Arena Green. But the selection of this project flies in the face of all we know about riparian zones. Riparian areas need to be dark at night in the natural order. And the placement of this project is directly under the flight path for planes

landing at the airport. As a former pilot, I can't imagine landing a plane at night with this brightly lit, two-hundred-foot moving structure right below.

I know it's important to the benefactors of this "gift" to the city that the project is right in the middle of the station area. But it doesn't even need to be a "light tower". In fact, it makes sense that it is not a light tower. For one thing, the original San Jose Light Tower was a fiasco. History tells us that it was blinding to look at, cast huge shadows, and cooked birds in flight. It only lasted 34 years before it collapsed. Can't we find something else to spend \$150 million on?

Please reject this selection and direct the benefactors to come up with something that this exciting new development in San Jose really needs. A pedestrian bridge to continue the Los Gatos Creek Trail from the southwest to the northeast corner of Montgomery (Barack Obama Blvd.) and Park Ave. comes to mind.

Thank you,

Bill Rankin

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.



May 3, 2021

City of San Jose, City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose CA 95113-1905

RE: Support for Arena Green, Breeze of Innovation

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council,

The San Jose Downtown Association would like to express our support for the Breeze of Innovation becoming a permanent part of our city. This bold destination landmark will be a major enhancement to Arena Green and an important destination for when visitors come to our region and ask “to see Silicon Valley.”

As a member of the Arena Green Stakeholder group, we have been part of the process to ensure transparency in the siting of this project within an important downtown public park. The Urban Confluence team have been forthright in their efforts to solicit and incorporate community feedback and have taken measures to respond to comments through seven public events and a myriad of conversations with community members for more than a year. This project from the beginning has integrated a value set to respect our environment -- specifically the Guadalupe River Park -- while also protecting the riparian corridor (flora, fauna, and lighting) with considerations of the airport as well.

While most park projects directly leverage public funding, the Breeze of Innovation will not use any city funds to build, operate, or maintain the project. With 963 submissions from 72 countries, this is a once-in-a-lifetime moment to build a project that will celebrate San Jose in the heart of our city. We would like to encourage the city council to accept the staff recommendation on this project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Scott Knies
Executive Director



May 3, 2021

City of San Jose Mayor and City Council
200 E Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: 7.1 21-948 Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Design Rankings and Future Work Plan

Dear Mayor Liccardo and City Councilmembers,

The Guadalupe River Park Conservancy (GRPC) is the City's non-profit partner in the activation and development of the Guadalupe River Park. It is with a focused lens on stewardship of the Guadalupe River Park that we submit this letter regarding the Urban Confluence Project proposed along the river at Arena Green West.

Arena Green is one of the most important parks in the Guadalupe River Park. Over the course of the project, we have reviewed and considered existing plans for Arena Green to determine what recommendations, if any, might influence current considerations for the park. Design and park development guidelines for Arena Green, including Urban Confluence, must account for the following:

1. Mitigation of environmental and health impacts be factored in **at the design development phase**, where these would be most thoughtfully addressed, rather than through the CEQA process. We continue to voice that negative impacts must be avoided, not solely mitigated.
2. **Highlight our natural resources and open spaces**, with new park developments contributing to the overall park experience and ecological health - projects must be appropriately scaled to Arena Green and create a cohesive River Park system.
3. **Discourage the removal of any trees** within the riparian corridor and **excessive lighting** that negatively impacts local wildlife and community health.
4. **Free and unobstructed movement through the park**, through appropriated-sized pathways, comfortable walking experiences, public accessibility, and safe and welcoming environments. This must account for the anticipated increase in park visitation from the project.
5. If necessary, **relocation of existing park amenities must be moved to other areas within the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens**, including the carousel and playground.
6. **Robust community engagement** is essential to any major development on public land. The project must have demonstrated community support and thoughtful engagement, particularly given the more visible need for parks and open spaces now, and the social and economic context of which this project finds itself in.

7. **Compliance with the Guadalupe River Park Master Plan** - we must point out that this type of structure/attraction was not contemplated when the Guadalupe River Park was last master planned. If the project proceeds, the City must review and update that Plan, and extend the privilege of that scope to the entire River Park to factor in new transportation investments, development projects, and the Diridon Station Area Plan impacts.

Thoughtful design review must occur as the project progresses. The project must be actively integrated into both Arena Green East and West and avoid impacts to the riparian corridor and its natural inhabitants and plant species. The city's adopted *Policy for Riparian Corridor Protection and Bird Safe Design* requires that night-time light sources not be visible from the riparian corridor. Furthermore, Santa Clara County's *Guidelines for Land Use Near Streams* requires that projects in riparian corridors avoid bright colors and glossy or glare producing building finishes on structures facing the stream or riparian areas, and avoid nighttime lighting.

Addressing potential impacts must be done at the design phase, and such measures need to prioritize avoiding before mitigating. We will not support designing a project and then solely addressing mitigation post-design through CEQA.

GRPC has served as the environmental steward stakeholder throughout most of the planning process for the project. While we understand that the design is still in its conceptual phase, we share similar questions with other parks and environmental advocates as voiced in their public comment letters.

There are many admirable elements of all the designs, and we appreciate the many community meetings and outreach the Urban Confluence Silicon Valley team have held to date. However, we strongly recommend they address these concerns in this letter, and others from the public openly, transparently, and with scientific and social rigor of its impacts on our ecology and community. Without the incorporation of these concerns, other environmental priorities, and alignment with the Guadalupe River Park Master Plan, we have stated to the Urban Confluence team and the project designers that we will not support the project. We will continue to monitor the project and its progress.

Sincerely,



Marguerite Lee
Board President

cc: Jon Cicirelli
Nicolle Burnham



438 Coleman Avenue
San Jose, CA 95110
408-298-7657
guadalupeconservancy.org
EIN: 77-0166797



To:

Sam Liccardo <mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov>,
Chappie Jones <District1@sanjoseca.gov>,
Sergio Jimenez sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov,
Raul Peralez <District3@sanjoseca.gov>,
David Cohen <District4@sanjoseca.gov>,
Magdalena Carrasco <District5@sanjoseca.gov>,
Dev Davis <district6@sanjoseca.gov>,
"Esparza, Maya" <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>,
Sylvia Arenas <district8@sanjoseca.gov>,
Pam Foley <District9@sanjoseca.gov>,
Matt Mahan <District10@sanjoseca.org>,
city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov,
agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the San Jose City Council,

Human Agenda has a long history of supporting initiatives that incorporate our DECKS values: Democracy, Equity, Cooperation, Kindness and Sustainability.

We have polled our entire Board of Directors and we unanimously oppose the Urban Confluence project, Item 7a on the 5/4/2021 agenda. We are in agreement with the budgeting, social and environmental concerns raised by ten environmental groups. We don't think the proposed project meets the original environmental guidelines established for the project.

There are so many important human needs that this expensive project could support, instead!

We ask you to stop supporting this project and not to approve any staff or budget resources that would allow this project to advance.

Richard Hobbs, Executive Director
Human Agenda

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

May 4, 2021

To: San Jose City Council
From: No Digital Billboards in San Jose
Subject: Opposed to Urban Confluence project

We are writing to express our concerns about the Urban Confluence (UC) project.

We Oppose Commercializing Public Space

Our public spaces, and especially our public parks, should not be locations to commercialize.

As currently explained, the UC project has an underlying, and to-date undefined revenue generating commercial element as part of the plan. We are concerned that this could include commercial advertising and electronic displays with advertising and branding.

No response from UC project proponents has, so far, assuaged our concern, and therefore we feel this is an unexposed element of the project that should be clarified now before proceeding.

Any agreement with the City should include a provision that prohibits commercial advertising and electronic displays in public parks.

And in general, we are aligned with the many other environmental advocacy organizations who have expressed a myriad of concerns about spoiling the natural environment with the Urban Confluence project.

We also suggest that maintenance and improvement of our beloved existing open spaces including: the Arena Green with reactivated Carousel, the Heritage Rose Garden, and the entire Guadalupe Trail should be top priority, well before considering a new one site project with a host of risks, costs, and community objections.

Regards,
Jason Hemp, Les Levitt, & John Miller
No Digital Billboards In San Jose - Steering Committee

Sign our petition [here](#)
Visit us on FaceBook [here](#)

Follow us on Twitter [@BillboardsNo](#)
Instagram: [@nobillboardssj](#)

No Digital Billboards in SJ is working to inspire people who care about [#SanJose](#) to send the the City Council the explicit message - No Digital Billboards!

Fw: City council agenda item 7.1 21-948 on May 4th 2021

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 8:18 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: rosalie_dancer2 [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:35 AM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** City council agenda item 7.1 21-948 on May 4th 2021

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk and
Honorable Council members,

RE:

Agenda item 7.1 21-948

Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Design Rankings and Future Work Plan.

I am writing to strongly oppose ANY further City of San Jose action and funding on this agenda item.
This plan should be rejected!

Already the City of San Jose has spent far too much of its precious time and money to support this
ridiculous proposal to build a 20-story monstrosity that will cause light and sound pollution for miles.

The staff has recommended that the City proceed with this plan and spend even more time, energy and
money on this ill-conceived project.

NO NO, a thousand times NO.

Please pay attention to the many many environmental organizations who oppose this terrible project.

The heavy equipment to build it will destroy the natural areas around it. Any crowds that might possibly come to see it would trample the sensitive habitat of the confluence of two important rivers.

The light will extend for many hundreds of feet above and around the area, perhaps for miles. The light will destroy the night-time sky and the habits of wildlife in the area.

It will also disrupt the residents in nearby areas and will likely endanger airplanes on the flight path to San Jose Airport.

In addition, the rods are designed to move and will cause a ridiculous amount of noise pollution.

The Silicon Valley movers and shakers who have chosen the design and created this plan should be denied. They have a pointless desire to try to build a landmark to attract tourists and give some higher status to the City.

The City of San Jose already has some beautiful landmarks in the architecture of historic buildings (and some newer ones). In decades past, unfortunately many historic buildings were destroyed. In recent years, others have been spared and they are treasures to the community.

The City of San Jose also has an excellent collection of murals that have been painted on various buildings. These are a rich addition to the culture of the city and more should be funded and created.

The REAL hallmarks of the City of San Jose are the many excellent events and activities. Some are world class, such as the San Jose Jazz Summerfest. Others, such as the Downtown Christmas in the Park, involve thousands of students and local organizations to create a wonderful experience for people throughout the Bay Area.

These events and many more (such as Cinequest, conventions and the performing arts), bring happy people to downtown who gladly patronize the restaurants and other venues.

THESE define the soul of our city!

If the desire for a light structure is so strong, please build a replica of the original San Jose City Light Tower and place it on Cesar Chavez Park or another downtown location. That is a much more reasonable landmark and it would actually be charming.

I strongly urge you to stop this Urban Confluence projects NOW before any further damage is done.

Thank you very kindly for your consideration.
I appreciate your service to our community.

Best regards,
Rosalie Alice
95124
District 9

Fw: Vote No on Urban Confluence Light Tower Project

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 8:18 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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From: kim_milone [REDACTED] on behalf of Kim Hayes
>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:00 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Vote No on Urban Confluence Light Tower Project

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk Toni Taber,

Please vote to reject the work plan and to stop the so-called "Breeze of Innovation" light tower in Arena Green Park. It is a 200-foot tall monument to light pollution, harming the natural environments of Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek right at their confluence. This proposal does not belong at Arena Green where it will kill countless birds, insects and other animals. A dark sky is a natural resource for people and wildlife - stop this project from harming the skies of San Jose.

Sincerely,
Kim Hayes

[REDACTED]

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From: kkarnos [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> on behalf of Kristine Karnos**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 10:22 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Vote No on Urban Confluence Light Tower Project

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk Toni Taber,

Please vote to reject the work plan and to stop the so-called "Breeze of Innovation" light tower in Arena Green Park. It is a 200-foot tall monument to light pollution, harming the natural environments of Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek right at their confluence. This proposal does not belong at Arena Green where it will kill countless birds, insects and other animals. A dark sky is a natural resource for people and wildlife - stop this project from harming the skies of San Jose.

Sincerely,

Kristine Karnos
[REDACTED]

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From: Exccomm2 [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> on behalf of Michelle Spreadbury [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:12 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Vote No on Urban Confluence Light Tower Project

[External Email]

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Sincerely,
Michelle Spreadbury
[REDACTED]

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Fw: Item 7.1 San Jose Tower of light

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 8:21 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

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From: Roland Lebrun [REDACTED] >**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 5:26 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Item 7.1 San Jose Tower of light

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council,

I would like to express my STRONG SUPPORT for approving the staff recommendation to move forward with the BREEZE design as a future San Jose landmark but I would like you to also consider alternate locations (preferably south of Arena Green), visible both from Downtown and Downtown West as well as the rest of San Jose.

Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to debunk various public comments about London and Paris' light shows, including London's Ryoji Ikeda spectra and Shard building and Paris' Eiffel Tower:

Fw: Item 7.1 San Jose Tower of light

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 8:21 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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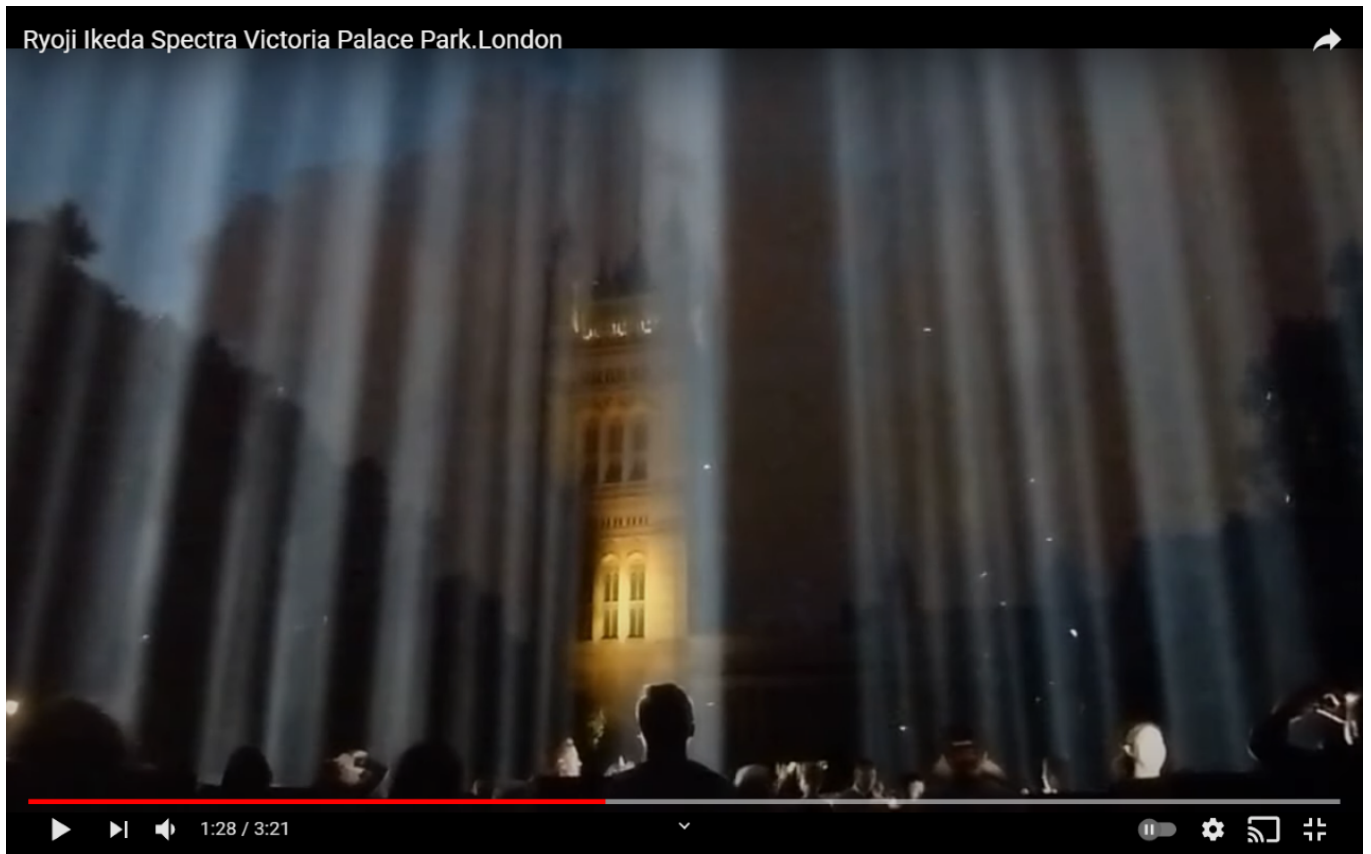
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<https://youtu.be/nRzoDqOy2iQ?t=19>



https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+shard+light+show



https://youtu.be/pH2_mnh1XFE

Eiffel Tower Light Show [HD]



European Union - Blue Eiffel Tower with 12 Golden Stars
Eiffel Tower, Paris, France
European Union and Integration!
Light Show of Eiffel Tower at Night

youtu.be



Sincerely,

Roland Lebrun

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Fw: Vote No on Urban Confluence Light Tower Project

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] >
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Kim Hayes

[REDACTED]

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Fw: City council agenda item 7.1 21-948 on May 4th 2021

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Honorable Council members,

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Agenda item 7.1 21-948

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The heavy equipment to build it will destroy the natural areas around it. Any crowds that might possibly come to see it would trample the sensitive habitat of the confluence of two important rivers.

The light will extend for many hundreds of feet above and around the area, perhaps for miles. The light will destroy the night-time sky and the habits of wildlife in the area.

It will also disrupt the residents in nearby areas and will likely endanger airplanes on the flight path to San Jose Airport.

In addition, the rods are designed to move and will cause a ridiculous amount of noise pollution.

The Silicon Valley movers and shakers who have chosen the design and created this plan should be denied.

They have a pointless desire to try to build a landmark to attract tourists and give some higher status to the City.

The City of San Jose already has some beautiful landmarks in the architecture of historic buildings (and some newer ones). In decades past, unfortunately many historic buildings were destroyed. In recent years, others have been spared and they are treasures to the community.

The City of San Jose also has an excellent collection of murals that have been painted on various buildings. These are a rich addition to the culture of the city and more should be funded and created.

The REAL hallmarks of the City of San Jose are the many excellent events and activities. Some are world class, such as the San Jose Jazz Summerfest.

Others, such as the Downtown Christmas in the Park, involve thousands of students and local organizations to create a wonderful experience for people throughout the Bay Area.

These events and many more (such as Cinequest, conventions and the performing arts), bring happy people to downtown who gladly patronize the restaurants and other venues.

THESE define the soul of our city!

If the desire for a light structure is so strong, please build a replica of the original San Jose City Light Tower and place it on Cesar Chavez Park or another downtown location. That is a much more reasonable landmark and it would actually be charming.

I strongly urge you to stop this Urban Confluence projects NOW before any further damage is done.

Thank you very kindly for your consideration.
I appreciate your service to our community.

Best regards,
Rosalie Alice
95124
District 9

Fw: Vote NO - Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Design

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 9:34 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Margaret Hinebaugh [REDACTED] >

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:32 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Vote NO - Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Design

[External Email]

Hello,

As a resident of Santa Clara county for 24 years, I urge the San Jose city council to **vote no** and **to reject** the Urban Confluence project.

This is an expensive and unnecessary blight that will be environmentally damaging.

It is a waste of money.

It is much too large.

It will cause light pollution that is disruptive and harmful to humans, birds, and animals.

If we want to create something that celebrates the innovation and diversity of Silicon Valley, then why not have artists create a virtual reality installation? People could view the artistic creation(s) through their personal devices, and there would be no need for a physical structure that is intrusive and not forward-thinking.

Please reject the Urban Confluence project.

Thank you,
Margaret Hinebaugh

[REDACTED]

Opposition to the Urban Confluence Project

Jeffrey Levin [REDACTED]

Tue 5/4/2021 10:03 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Matt Mahan <District10@sanjoseca.org>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council,

The South Bay Progressive Alliance (SBPA), wishes to express **OPPOSITION to the Urban Confluence project, Item 7a on the 5/4/2021** agenda. We are in agreement with the budgeting, social and environmental concerns raised by ten environmental groups. We ask you to stop supporting this project and not to approve any staff and budget resources that would allow this project to advance.

The South Bay Progressive Alliance is an independent, politically unaffiliated organization with a mission to unite diverse individuals, communities, and organizations into an inclusive coalition that fights to elect local corporate-free candidates, enact progressive policies, and build institutions and a society based on democracy, equity, cooperation, compassion and sustainability.

Jeffrey I. Levin
Communications Chair
South Bay Progressive Alliance

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Fw: This light tower must not be built

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 12:31 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Walter Hudson [REDACTED]**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:44 AM**To:** Liccardo, Sam <sam.liccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Peralez, Raul <Raul.Peralez@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Jones, Chappie <Chappie.Jones@sanjoseca.gov>; Diep, Lan <lan.diep@sanjoseca.gov>; Khamis, Johnny <johnny.khamis@sanjoseca.gov>; Carrasco, Magdalena <Magdalena.Carrasco@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Arenas, Sylvia <sylvia.arenas@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** This light tower must not be built

[External Email]

Simply put: I have just read six articles on this tower and am bewildered that you are even considering it. Sure the \$\$\$ doesnt come out of city coffers but heres why NOT to allow it

1. The lighting effects are frankly scary as the Sierra Club & enviro folks have well made the case that this visual distortion and disruption of creatures has not been addressed but arent we the city that has municipal laws about interfering with the telescope at Mt. Hamilton's celestial powers? I foresee a challenge by or to the City Attorney's office!
2. Has anyone considered how this will affect the visual safety factors for incoming flights to Mineta? Do you really want to get the FAA involved in this?
3. There are lots of boosters here but what about the people living in the downtown mega-apartments who will have this shimmering colossus cutting off their vision? would you like to have mega lawsuits by the complex owners?

Please Mayor and Council Members, cool your jets and lets deal with the pandemic and our struggling economy!

Walter Hudson



--

It's tough to be on the receiving end of love, God's or anybody else's. It requires that we see our lives not as our possessions, but as gifts. "Nothing is more repugnant to capable, reasonable people than grace," wrote John Wesley a long time ago.

--William Willimon

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Fw: Agenda Item 7.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 12:27 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: David Manzo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:25 PM
To: District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 7.1

[External Email]

Dear Dev,

I am writing you to show my support for this development being discussed tonight, The Breeze of Innovation. San Jose has nothing of note to put out to the country or the world as it stands now. We can't count on the Sharks to bring us a Stanley Cup, we couldn't get the Athletics to move down here. We've pretty much have given up on the title "Capital of Silicon Valley" as the media now shows most references of Silicon Valley as being San Francisco. Our city forefathers were near-sighted in putting an airport 2 miles north of downtown so today our skyline is (currently) slightly more impressive than Fresno.

We deserve this project. Something that has been so well thought out to show the world what we have in this valley. And Arena green is the perfect location for this monument. A monument which pays homage to the last city monument, the last time someone did something bold in downtown San Jose. This project coupled with the downtown (Google) west project, the new train station and the dozens of other proposed projects, we may finally see a destination city.

I hope that you plan on giving your support to this great step forward for San Jose.

David Manzo

SanJose 2030

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May 4, 2021

Mayor Liccardo and Council
City of San Jose
200 E Santa Clara St
San Jose, CA 95113

Regarding: 5/4/21 Agenda Item 7.1 Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Design Rankings and Future Work Plan

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Councilmembers,

We hope that you will accept the staff report on the Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Project including the jury recommended rankings of the three finalists, and acceptance of *Breeze of Innovation* as the winning design; and approve the expected work plan for next phases of the project; and acknowledge the staff and budget resources required to move this project forward.

As a candidate and advocacy based, Business focused PAC we aim to make San Jose the best city in the country to start and grow a local business. Seeking and supporting candidates for local office is just part of making this city, the *best* city for all of us. It also takes something that represents all of us. It involves a sense of place, and a sense of community.

We are supportive of the Urban Confluence Project Silicon Valley; that will give our city the artistic and cultural recognition it deserves here, not just in San Jose, but worldwide.

We all have an opportunity to take part, by supporting the vision and development of a new iconic landmark that will represent the intersection of modern technology, history, art, architecture, engineering, and place-making, and as a symbol of San Jose's and Silicon Valley's place in the world.

Sincerely,

Tracey Infantino
Board Chair
Business San Jose Chamber PAC

Business San Jose Chamber PAC FPPC #1409516.
<https://www.bsjpgpac.com> 408-827-8053

Fw: Agenda Item 7.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 12:52 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Peggy & Steve <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:50 PM**To:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Agenda Item 7.1

[External Email]

My name is Steve Snell. I first moved to San Jose in 1947 when I was 11 years old and San Jose had a population of about 90,000. After serving in the Navy for four years I attended San Jose State and then worked in radio in Lodi and Fresno. I moved back to San Jose in 1970.

Before I retired as Partner/General Manager of radio stations KBAY and KEEN/KSJ I was very active in the San Jose community. i.e. Chairman of the Board of the San Jose Symphony San Jose Rotary, San Jose CofC and many other organizations.

During all this time I was very active in supporting San Jose and trying to figure out what San Jose could do to be recognized as the great city it had become. We were always in the shadow of San Francisco. I thought, what we needed was some recognizable, monumental work of art that would be celebrated around world as representative of our incredible inventiveness. I believe Breeze of Innovation is that monument.

I hope you agree and will approve this amazing project.

Sincerely,

Steve Snell

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Fw: Agenda Item 7.1 - May 4, 2021

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 2:37 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Joe Quilici [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:33 PM

Subject: Agenda Item 7.1 - May 4, 2021

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

I strongly support the vision of Urban Confluence Silicon Valley to create a magnificent landmark for our city. Breeze of Innovation offers a unique opportunity to re-define our downtown core. Now is the time to encourage the citizens of San Jose to embrace a game-changing gift to our city, our region, and the people of the world that is a physical expression of our ingenuity and integrity. This project is privately funded and no city funds will be used to build, operate, or maintain the project. We look forward to your approval of this design, allowing this project to move forward. Breeze of Innovation will bring pride and economic growth to San Jose and Silicon Valley.

[Please contact me with any questions.](#)

Sincerely,

SILICON VALLEY CIVIL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

[REDACTED]

Joseph A. Quilici, P.E., S.E., CFLC, CGBP
Civil, Structural, Forensic Engineer
Certified Forensic Litigation Consultant
Certified Green Building Professional

[REDACTED]

Fw: Breeze of Innovation

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 2:37 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: anita [REDACTED] >**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:13 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Breeze of Innovation

[External Email]

As a 35 year working resident in the San Jose area this is to express SUPPORT for the Breeze of Innovation project being discussed tonight at the City Council meeting. Let's show the world we have something beautiful to offer downtown besides the homeless situation. I urge the Mayor and City Council to move forward with Urban Confluence Silicon Valley – Breeze of Innovation project.

Anita Woodson**Woodson Administrative Services Inc.**

[REDACTED]

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Fw: Opposition to the "Light Tower" project

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 3:48 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Idruff psychology [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:56 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; agendaclerk@sanjoseca.gov <agendaclerk@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8@samjoseca.gov <District8@samjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Opposition to the "Light Tower" project

[External Email]

I am resending this letter that I sent on Monday, May 3rd and this time including the City Clerk so that it goes into the public record.

I am a 40-year resident of San Jose, and I am writing in opposition to the Urban Confluence Light Tower Project. It is wrong in so many ways.

1. In a time of increasing awareness of the importance of celebrating and including all of San Jose's rich diversity, **this project is tone-deaf**. It purports to create an iconic structure to celebrate San Jose made of 500 *identical* 20 story tall poles *representing tech companies*. We are not all the same and San Jose does not even have very many tech companies within our borders. **Why not celebrate our rich and diverse culture?**

2. It will kill birds. This is not theory. New York City recreates the Twin Towers once a year on 9-11 by shining lights into the sky. Birds are drawn in and "captured by the light" where they would circle until they dropped dead from exhaustion. Only by constantly cycling the light off are the birds released to go on their way. Birds migrate at night. We are on the Pacific Flyway.

3. It can **draw birds across the flight path of planes** at the nearby airport. Light will draw in birds from all around including from the area of the airport. Birds sucked into airplane engines have been the cause of many plane crashes.

4. It will **impact the Riparian Corridor**. Arena Green is at the joining of two major riparian corridors. It will impact the circadian rhythms of the plants in the corridor weakening them and reducing the functioning of the ecosystem.
5. It **uses up precious parkland**. If they want to make a gift to the city, why are they making us give up precious parkland in a city without enough park space?
6. It creates **massive light pollution** all night every night. Everyone will have to endure it and they aren't being asked their opinion.

For all these reasons and more I ask that you vote "No" on this project.

Linda Ruthruff

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Fw: SJ City Council Agenda Item 7.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 3:44 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Susan Chin [REDACTED] >**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:24 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** SJ City Council Agenda Item 7.1

[External Email]

4 May 2021

Dear City Clerk Taber:

As one of the national jury members, I strongly support this project, **Breeze of Innovation**. This iconic project will convert Arena Green into an inclusive and welcoming urban park that will become a global landmark. It is a poetic and inclusive design that represents a “once-in-a-generation” moment to build an artistically inspired icon that will define our region visually and give a meaningful gift to all of our families, the City of San Jose, Silicon Valley, and the world.

This project is privately funded and no city funds will be used to build, operate, or maintain the project. We are immensely proud of our global community that will stand and give together to ensure its success. And we encourage you to vote in favor of this exciting initiative.

Sincerely,
Susan Chin

Susan Chin, FAIA, Hon. ASLAPrincipal
[REDACTED]

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Opposing light tower project

Lauren Weston <[REDACTED]>

Tue 5/4/2021 4:57 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council,

Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet opposes the Urban Confluence project, Item 7a on the 5/4/2021 agenda. We are in agreement with the budgeting, social, and environmental concerns raised by multiple environmental groups (the costs compared to other important/urgent needs, the environmental impacts, etc.).

We ask you to not approve budget resources that would allow this project to advance. Funds can be better spent to support our communities and our planet.

Lauren Weston
Executive Director
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

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Fw: Agenda Item 7.1

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Tue 5/4/2021 4:30 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Pat Quinn <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:25 PM

To: District 6 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]> District9

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Agenda Item 7.1

[External Email]

Dear City Leadership,

I write this brief note in full support of the Urban Confluence San Jose civic pride project. As a 4th generation San Josean I have long desired to see a civic project(paid by private funding) reach out past our regional boarder to inspire families and people of all stripes to visit, elevate and enhance their own lives based upon a pure vision of hope and uplift.

Please give your most positive consideration to this once in a lifetime iconic opportunity.

Regards,

Patrick Quinn

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Fw: Opposing light tower project

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Wed 5/5/2021 8:42 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Lauren Weston <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:57 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]>

Cc: District 10 <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]>
District5 <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> District 6
<[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> City Clerk
<[REDACTED]> Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Opposing light tower project

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council,

Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet opposes the Urban Confluence project, Item 7a on the 5/4/2021 agenda. We are in agreement with the budgeting, social, and environmental concerns raised by multiple environmental groups (the costs compared to other important/urgent needs, the environmental impacts, etc.).

We ask you to not approve budget resources that would allow this project to advance. Funds can be better spent to support our communities and our planet.

Lauren Weston
Executive Director
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

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Fw: Item 7.1 San Jose Tower of light

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Wed 5/5/2021 8:37 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Roland Lebrun <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 12:39 AM**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>**Subject:** Re: Item 7.1 San Jose Tower of light

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council,

Further to my comments during Open Forum, here is the link to the research article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/srep19291.pdf>.

I hope this information will help us develop the most beneficial form of light for the City's avian population.

Sincerely,

Roland Lebrun.

From: Roland Lebrun**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 5:26 PM**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>**Subject:** Item 7.1 San Jose Tower of light

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council,

I would like to express my STRONG SUPPORT for approving the staff recommendation to move forward with the BREEZE design as a future San Jose landmark but I would like you to also consider alternate locations (preferably south of Arena Green), visible both from Downtown and Downtown West as well as the rest of San Jose.