

**From:** KEVIN MCKEE < >

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 2:07 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club. While the SJ Light Tower project may be a worthy thing, Arena Green isn't the place for it. It is more valuable left as is, providing habitat for fish & animals & a quiet place for SJ residents and visitors.

Respectfully,

Kevin McKee

Mountain View CA

(a frequent visitor to this part of SJ)

**From:** Jean Davis < >

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 5:37 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10

**Subject:** San Jose Light Tower

Distinguished Representatives:

I support approval of the Arena Green site as the location of the Landmark project, which will be the largest and greatest gift provided to our City in its history. The SJLT is early in the process, and I am confident they, along with City staff, will be sure all setbacks and environmental considerations will be followed.

San Jose is all about growth, we have trust in you that giving approval to the Landmark project will be in direction correlation of what is best for the community now and in the future.

Please support the project.

Jean Davis

**From:** Jay Ross < >

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 2:51 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10

**Subject:** City Council Agenda item 5.2 for 3/12/19: Guadalupe River Park at Arena Green as the site for San Jose's iconic landmark

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council Members,

I was born in San Jose and have worked downtown for nearly 30 years (my company's information is below). I write to share my strong support for the San Jose Light Tower Corporation's efforts to **give** our City an iconic landmark. I have been observing the process so far and am impressed by the energy, investment and extent of the effort, including the lengthy community meeting I recently attended. I also know the leaders of the effort well, Jon Ball and Steve Borkenhagen, and can't speak highly enough of their integrity and honesty, as well as their passion for this project. With Jon and Steve at the helm, I am very confident it will get done right and be something we all can be proud of. As a community, we should be thanking them repeatedly for their insight and willingness to take on this project to give what undoubtedly will be a treasure for our City and community.

I also have heard of complaints about the site location of the Arena Green, but the selection effort was thoughtful and thorough and those who worry about environmental impacts are premature since there is not yet any project and because designs will have to conform to the environmental constraints.

As a result, I support **approval** of the Arena Green site, so the Ideas Competition can move forward. I also am confident from what I have observed and heard that the public will be kept informed along the way.

Sincerely,

Jay

**Jay Ross**

**Hopkins & Carley** | A Law Corporation

**From:** Suzanne Morrone < >

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 12:54 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Arena Green proposal

“Dear Mayor and City Council, I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club. Respectfully,  
Suzanne Morrone

**From:** Laura Monczynski < >

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 12:18 PM

**To:** City Clerk; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10

**Subject:** No, not Arena Green for Light Tower project

Dear Mayor Liccardo and City Councilmembers,

I spent four years passionately working on the San Jose Light Tower project. Here I am in 1881 costume at a Light Tower fundraising event.

I am for the project, but against putting it in Arena Green - for environmental reasons. It is vitally important that the riparian corridor be protected for birds and fish and other wildlife. The light and noise from the project would severely impact one of the few places in downtown that is dedicated to nature.

Please vote against displacing and destroying the natural life at Arena GREEN, and continue the search for a more suitable location.

Thank you.

Laura Monczynski  
San Jose

**From:** Paula Strauss < > on behalf of Paula Strauss < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 10:56 AM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Arena Green Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Respectfully,

Paula Strauss and John Zornes, Campbell

**From:** chamerstad@aol.com < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 3:00 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project.

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Respectfully,  
Chuck Hammerstad  
San Jose, CA

**From:** Faith King < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 3:49 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** San Jose Light Tower Project

I strongly object to putting the Light Tower on Arena Green without an environmental impact report which considers the impact on the environment. How can this not be mandatory?

Sincerely, Faith B. King

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Trevor Graham < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 4:02 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I'm sure there are other less environmentally sensitive locations that would be better suited to this project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Sincerely,

Kim Graham, San Jose resident and Arena Green park user

**From:** Toni Ouradnik <>

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 4:25 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** March 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor Licardo and City Council Members,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. The environment of The Valley of Heart's Delight has long ago been changed to Silicon Valley, but that doesn't mean we sell out our few remaining green spaces to the constant drum of progress, progress, progress. Please consider alternatives that will leave this sensitive area alone.

Respectfully,

Toni Ouradnik

East Palo Alto

**From:** Cynthia Lazares <>

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 4:32 PM

**To:** City Clerk; District 10; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo

**Cc:** ; Christine Davis

**Subject:** Approval of the Arena Green site

I support approval of the Arena Green site, so the Ideas Competition can move forward. I believe the idea is going to be very beneficial to the community in many ways.

As a longtime business owner in San Jose and a person involved in San Jose's civic affairs for my entire working life, including former Chair of the San Jose Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce , I firmly believe an iconic structure giving San Jose a greater identity is a very important aspect of the city's growth and future recognition. San Jose needs this structure to continue to educate about the important role it has played in many aspects of life. San Jose has never received the respect and acknowledgment it deserves for its rich history. Let's be bold and approve this well intentioned and well thought out plan.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Kenyon – Lazares

Lazares Companies

**From:** Christine Davis < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 4:45 PM

**To:** Richard Conniff

**Cc:** City Clerk; sam@samliccardo.com; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District 10; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; Jon W. Ball; Steve Borkenhagen

**Subject:** Re: San Jose Light Tower Corporation

God bless you both. This is perfect!

Christine

Sent from my iPhone

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On Mar 9, 2019, at 4:43 PM, Richard Conniff < wrote:

Hi Sam,

I hope this finds you well. I understand that this coming Tuesday the City Council will be considering a proposal to locate the San Jose Light Tower project at the Arena Green. Approval of this proposal is a critical gating issue for a competition to design the Tower. Sandi and I have been supporters of the Light Tower since its early days. We know that a number of potential sites were considered and that Arena Green is the optimal location for this project. I have the greatest respect for the individuals guiding this effort and know that they will be great stewards of this project and protect the interests of all stakeholders moving forward.

I believe this is an important moment for the City of San Jose. Having worked in downtown off and on since 1977, including over 20 years leading several successful businesses, I have seen firsthand the struggle to increase the image and visibility of San Jose. Creation of an iconic structure that emboldens our identity creates great leverage for the other very positive things taking place downtown. I support the approval of Arena Green for the San Jose Light Tower project and hope to see the design/ideas process begin.

I also appreciate the concerns raised by others, especially regarding the environment. I have spent many years supporting environmental issues, including serving over 15 years on the board of Sempervirens Fund, a land trust dedicated to preserving coastal redwoods. I do not take the issues lightly but knowing the quality of the individuals and team behind the Light Tower, Sandi and I both believe the project will be done the right way and be a great asset for San Jose.

Thanks,

Dick

Richard Conniff

**From:** karthik raghunathan < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 5:29 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project.

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Respectfully,

Karthik



**From:** John Herschbach < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 7:53 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10; Steve Borkenhagen

**Subject:** Agenda Item 5.2 for Arena Green Site for Iconic Landmark

As a 3rd and 7th generation San Josean's on our fathers side (Herschbach and Ucovich) we support using the Arena Green for the location of a Structure being gifted to the City of San Jose. Our City needs something we can point to as part of our history and look on it with pride.

The fact that the SJLTC has gained support to reach this point in the process should show you our citizens want and need this Landmark.

Please seriously consider this approval.

John and Linda ( Ucovich ) Herschbach

**From:** Adriana Farkouh < >

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 8:05 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** March 12 City Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I learned from the Sierra Club that there are plans to take the Arena Green Park Land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower Project. I am opposed to this plan.

The Arena Green Park is a very integral part of our downtown, which is used in the ways parks are generally used, but in addition, many gatherings that bring the community together are held there. I have organized and attended rallies and marches there myself and would be very sad to lose this special place. In addition, it is an important, and environmentally sensitive area.

Please do not sacrifice the Arena Green Park for the San Jose Light Tower Project.

Sincerely,  
Adriana Farkouh



**From:** steve rutledge < >  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 10:00 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

If you truly want to create a landmark that will endure and benefit the City, then you should spend that money to create desperately needed park land, and buy land in Coyote Valley to help protect the water supply and reduce risk of flooding. Please don't cause unnecessary harm to the environment by approving the San Jose Light Tower project.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Julie Beer

**From:** helen d <>

**Sent:** Saturday, March 9, 2019 11:45 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** March 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Respectfully,

Helen Deng, San Jose resident

**From:** kathryn hedges <>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 10, 2019 3:16 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Opposition to San Jose Light Tower project

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Councilmembers:

Please reject the San Jose Light Tower proposal to design and donate a landmark on Arena Green. This is not an appropriate site, and the public is already unhappy with the City of San Jose for its willingness to divest itself of public land.

1. The limitations of Arena Green indicate that a landmark big enough to show up on the San Jose skyline simply can't be built there. It can't be higher than surrounding buildings due to the approach to Mineta International Airport and the massive Shark Tank next door. It can't be shiny or colorful, or illuminated after dark because of the wildlife corridor of the Guadalupe River Confluence.
2. The promoters claim the landmark will "activate" the space in the evenings (presumably like the Sonic Runway did at City Hall Plaza) but this ignores the restriction about lighting at night.
3. Arena Green is already a gathering place in daytime, one of only two large spaces suitable for staging runs and walks, rallies after marches from City Hall, or cultural festivals such as the Fantasy Faire. The presence of a large structure (and large construction site) will change the logistics of this site. Even if it technically belongs to the City Park system, it won't be a park with the same public uses.
4. The committee did not consult the public until they already had a plan, rather than consulting the public to see what we actually wanted. Better, if less prominent, ideas include: affordable housing, community center, community development resources such as STEM programs for children/teens. an incubator for businesses that don't get VC funding (such as the disadvantaged people served by Kiva), or even San Jose's version of the Ed Roberts Center in Berkeley. That complex brings together all agencies serving disabled people in one building conveniently located at a BART station, instead of requiring multiple trips by paratransit all over San Jose.
5. More generally speaking, even upgrading a new Diridon Station to an architectural gem with artistic flourishes would combine form and function as the Grand Central Station of the Northwest. I understand the impatience of elderly donors who want to see the fruits of their funding, but the City should take a longer view.

I understand the City has spent considerable public resources in researching the proposed sites. However, do not fall into the sunk cost fallacy. The logical conclusion of the research is that there is no good site for the proposed landmark, not that we must proceed with a project that will be hamstrung by restrictions of its site.

The idea of donating something impressive to the City of San Jose is worthwhile, but this plan is a bad plan. They need to work with the public to see what the public really wants instead of just

shoving it at us like a too-small ugly Christmas sweater and expecting our gratitude because they put so much work into it. This is more like giving a husky puppy to someone who lives in a high rise and works 80-hour weeks. It would be irresponsible to accept a gift that is incompatible with our living situation.

As a community member who attended the meeting, I can say that the public was unhappy with the project and our concerns were dismissed. Even people who had donated were unhappy that the organizers had changed the project from reconstructing the historic light tower to commissioning an international design project for something new and innovative. They couldn't even communicate this effectively to their own donors, which seems like a bad sign to me.

Please preserve "the front yard of Downtown San Jose", Arena Green.

Regards,

Kathryn Hedges

**From:** Anne Cowan < >

**Sent:** Sunday, March 10, 2019 8:52 AM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. Please consider the effect of this project on the streams and the wildlife that calls them home.

I heard about this from Sierra Club

Respectfully,

**Anne Cowan**

**San Jose**

**From:** S C <>

**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 12:17 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Respectfully,

Susy Chen from San Jose

**From:** stephjorgl <>

**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 12:25 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Support for the light tower

We support the light Tower. Bring back the light Tower! This was a piece of history in San Jose that we would like to see return!

Thank you,

Stephanie Jorgl

Nathan Smith

Residents of the Vendome community

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Big Kahuna Productions < >

**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 12:34 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10

**Subject:** Iconic Structure: Arena Green site

Dear City Leaders,

I support **approval** of the Arena Green site, so the Ideas Competition can move forward. I have spoken to the leaders of the Iconic Structure team (SJLTC), and I know their intentions, integrity, and drive will help bring a much-needed Landmark project to our City. I also know the public will be kept informed along the way. They have my support in locale choice and my support financially.

As a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation resident of San Jose and a person involved in San Jose's civic and community events and projects for many non-profit organizations, I confidently believe an iconic landmark structure giving San Jose a grander identity and uniqueness is a very vital phase of the city's evolution.

Let us not forget the naysayers in opposition to the San Jose (SAP) Arena and how we now host world recognized sporting events and amazing cultural performances. JJ Owen, publisher of the San Jose Mercury News said it best in 1881 about inspiration and innovation... ***It may be well for us and for the world that we may not know what tomorrow will bring forth, else many enterprises of great pith and moment would fail for lack of the proper resolution and effort for their consummation.***

Sincerely,

Sean O'Kane

Big Kahuna Productions



**From:** WENDY MCLAUGHLIN < >

**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 12:48 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Mar 12 Council Meeting - San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I strongly oppose taking Arena Green's park land, an environmentally sensitive area, for the San Jose Light Tower project. I heard about this from Sierra Club.

Respectfully, Wendy McLaughlin, Pacifica

**Wendy L. McLaughlin CLU, ChFC, CASL**

Financial Services Professional

**From:** Teresa O'Kane < >  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 1:17 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam; Jones, Chappie; Carrasco, Magdalena  
**Subject:** San Jose Landmark Project at Arena Green

I support approval of the Arena Green site as the location of the Landmark project, which will be the largest and greatest gift provided to our City in its history. The SJLT is early in the process, and I am confident they, along with City staff, will be sure all setbacks and environmental considerations will be followed.

Thank you kindly,

-Teresa O'Kane

March 11, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

We have lived in San Jose most of our lives and are proud residents of the Bay Area. San Jose is well-deserved of a Landmark that recognizes not only our city's growth but a place where dreams are made and generational economic growth is boundless.

We proudly support approval of the Arena Green site, so the Ideas Competition can move forward. We have spoken to the leaders of the Iconic Structure team (SJLTC), and know their intentions, integrity, and drive will help bring a much-needed Landmark project to the City of San Jose. We also know the public will be kept informed along the way. They have our support.

Kindly,

Robin Pendergraft and Vance Murakami

**From:** Suzanne Salata < >

**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 1:44 PM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam; Jones, Chappie; Jimenez, Sergio; Peralez, Raul; Diep, Lan; Carrasco, Magdalena; Davis, Dev; Esparza, Maya; Arenas, Sylvia; Foley, Pam; Khamis, Johnny

**Cc:** City Clerk

**Subject:** Agenda Item 5.2 - Acceptance of Guadalupe River Park at Arena Green for San Jose Light Tower Corporation (SJLT) for Iconic Structure

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones and members of San Jose City Council,

On Tuesday, March 12, 2019, you will be deciding whether to support the San Jose Light Tower Corporation's (SJLT) proposal to place the "not yet selected" Iconic Structure at Arena Green. This effort is being lead by three of the most prominent and passionate community leaders in Downtown San Jose, Jon Ball, Christine Davis and Steve Borkenhagen. I enthusiastically encourage you to vote to approve this proposal for the following reasons:

- 1) They have committed to adhere to all environmental and city requirements.
- 2) They are being very transparent with their process of selection of this structure through upcoming Ideas Competition. The 11 person "jury" will include most special interest groups.
- 3) The Arena area is a disaster. We need to do everything possible to encourage residents and visitors to utilize this outdoor space. Today, it is full of garbage, un kept and not safe – who really goes there now?
- 4) SJLT has committed to RAISE ALL FUNDS to construct the project as well as FUNDS TO MAINTAIN the beauty and cleanliness of the area. This is unheard of --- most art projects and city buildings are built without the funds needed to maintain the space.

As business and property owners in Downtown San Jose, we work very hard to keep our buildings maintained, safe and clear of graffiti. Anything that "brightens" our City should be supported! You have to make many difficult decisions as representatives of our City. This should be a "slam dunk" – what's not to like?

Sincerely,

Suzanne Salata – Vice President Garden City Construction

***"Public Art is a part of our public history, part of our evolving culture and our collective memory. It reflects and reveals our society and adds meaning to our Cities."***

**From:** Tracy Cooper <>

**Sent:** Friday, March 8, 2019 1:39:23 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** City Council 2/12/19 meeting, San Jose Light Tower Project

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I oppose taking Arena Green's park land in an environmentally sensitive area for the San Jose Light Tower project. The money would benefit the city more by purchasing land for parks. I heard about this from the Sierra Club.

Respectfully,

Tracy Cooper, San Jose

**From:** claudette isayo < >

**Sent:** Friday, March 8, 2019 1:06 PM

**To:** City Clerk

**Subject:** City Council Mar 12 meeting, San Jose Light Tower Project

“Dear Mayor and City Council,

I oppose taking Arena Green's park land in an environmentally sensitive area for the San Jose Light Tower project. The money would benefit the city more by purchasing land for parks. I heard about this from the Sierra Club.

Respectfully,  
Claudette Isayo  
San Jose