



## PRESS RELEASE

SAN JOSE LIGHT TOWER  
CORPORATION

### **SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSES ICONIC STRUCTURE IN SAN JOSE**

*City agencies to guide the investigation into options for design and construction*

**MAY 2, 2018, SAN JOSE, CA** – At its Tuesday session in chambers, the San Jose City Council unanimously endorsed the San Jose Light Tower Corporation (SJLTC) to move forward with plans to design and construct an artistically inspired and iconic structure downtown, as a gift to the City of San Jose.

Through this endorsement by the City Council, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) and the Office of Economic Development/Office of Cultural Affairs (OED/OCA) are approved to guide the San Jose Light Tower Corporation as they perform site selection, discuss possible amenities, and implement fundraising strategies in support of this creative vision. Special regard will be given to scale and context within the current urban fabric of the downtown area to ensure a harmonious and aesthetic result.

The original San Jose electric light tower, constructed in 1881, stood an impressive 237-feet tall and spanned the intersection of Santa Clara and Market Streets. While not seeking to rebuild this historic tower, the San Jose Light Tower Corporation—a local nonprofit organization—is leading the effort to build a new, world-class, distinctive structure in San Jose. This new tower would use cutting-edge architecture and technology to recognize the region’s history while inspiring future generations with a state-of-the-art design.

Providing this structural art to the city is intended to enrich the community and build civic pride, drawing residents and visitors, and enhancing economic development in the downtown core. While the actual design for the new tower is undetermined and a worldwide competition to find the ultimate design is still to be announced, the SJLTC team estimates a 4-year project development and construction cycle, with project completion in 2022. This will be the largest gift ever given to the City of San Jose.

#### **About San Jose Light Tower Corporation**

The San Jose Light Tower Corporation is a nonprofit, grassroots organization formed with the bold vision of creating an artistically inspired and iconic structure that builds civic pride within San Jose. Founded in 2017 by local community leaders, the organization is passionate about building a new, distinctive structure using cutting-edge architecture and technology to recognize the region’s history while inspiring future generations with a new design that encompasses the themes of innovation, collaboration, and international relations. For more about this exciting and incredible journey from the past to the future for America's tenth largest city, or to get involved as a donor or champion, visit [www.sanjoselighttower.org](http://www.sanjoselighttower.org).

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