

Project statement

Vital wetlands is utilizing renewable energy as means of creating pleasant and vibrant spaces for the visitors of Santa Monica. Habitat, water and kinetic energy were all taken into consideration and interweaved to create additional features on the site. The intent of Vital Wetlands is for visitors to be able to walk beyond the pier and out onto the ocean, therefore, providing the visitors a different perspective of the ocean. Knowing the project dealt with a marine ecosystem and habitat, this dictated the direction of the design. The project sought to provide an opportunity for people to be able to walk beyond the pier and have a different perspective of the ocean. Creating a different experience to the visitors beyond the pier would make this project more interesting and appealing to the visitors and locals. Incorporated into the site would be certain areas for various animals such as Pacific Green Sea Turtles, Birds, and smaller animal species to thrive and find a home. Art can be observed through the animal shade structures that are above the walkway. Animals selected for this shade structured were selected by native sea animals that can be seemed through your experience through the walkway. Utilizing a vibrant colorful palette for the animals would make this walk way more visitable by toddlers and young children. Highlighting the opportunities on the site lead to creating a walkway that incorporates movement throughout the site for pedestrians. Through these interventions Santa Monica can be transformed into an example of how offshore renewable energy and visitors can be integrated together. The goal is to exemplify the values of ecological restoration and environmental sustainability at Santa Monica. Part of that transformation includes a site-specific public artwork designed to operate as a source of clean energy for the city. Vital Wetlands created a sustainable design solution that integrates art and technology into renewable energy infrastructure in Santa Monica.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Wetlands with various types of grasses that thrive in salt water conditions will be installed into the man made wetlands. A total of 85,4000 square feet of wetlands will be constructed to purify the water from all the minerals that are found at the site. Calculations have demonstrated that the total amount of water that will be filtered is a 805 gallons per day average if having all the conditions present. Habitat on the site is existing habitat and the intention is to generate more of the sea animals but at the same time not being invasive. Pacific Green Sea Turtles being one of the primary habitats in the project we desire to improve and increase more of on the site. Other sea animals and various birds will also be taken in consideration and see how much they can contribute to the project. Our PKC are able to generate 2.1W/H with them being stepped on continuously.

