**Switchwave**

The **Switchwave** is inspired by a few elements from Santa Monica’s **history**: the **wharf**, the **99 steps**, and the **switchback roller coaster**. Each element describes the movement of energy back and forth across the structure. The **wharf** is an extension of a pier that connects the railway to incoming ships for the transportation of goods from the ships. It is similar to the way people move from one space to the next on our pier.

The **99 steps** was the first staircase used to get to the beach from the city of Santa Monica. The one-way transition from the top to the bottom (or bottom to top) is seen in the bike path that slowly rises up to give the rider a view of the project then descends back down.

The **switchback roller coaster** uses only gravity to travel between the two end goals. This piece influenced the shape of the pathways, the oscillating water columns, and sails on top of the water columns. It also influenced the addition of lights.

The layout of the pathway includes separate walking and bike paths, a fishing dock, a cafe area, and resting points out by the oscillating water columns. Visitors and wave motion interact with lights along the entire path. As the visitors begin their path they set off a series of red, blue, and green lights on the pier and out at the oscillating water columns. As water flows into the oscillating water columns the lights blink and get brighter showing the generation of energy happening.