



## Foster + Partners unveils Uber Air Skyport for Santa Clara



Bridget Cogley | 19 June 2019

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British architecture firm Foster + Partners has revealed plans to build an Uber Air Skyport in a new neighbourhood in Santa Clara.

Foster + Partners' skyport would part of a new housing and commercial development that the firm is designing for developer Related Companies in Santa Clara – a city in California's technology hub Silicon Valley.



new hub for the city that will accommodate Uber's fleet of electric vertical take-off and landing vehicles (eVTOL).

"The way we move is constantly evolving," said Foster + Partners head of studio Stefan Behling. "The skyport is an integrated hub that offers people the choice to change from one mode of transport to many others."

Foster + Partners' design aims to create a seamless connection between departing and arriving, and allows for a number of flight operations at the same time. It also includes a flight deck that can charge up to five eVTOL aircrafts at a single time.

### **Design provides model for future aerial ride-sharing hubs**

Renderings of the design show a curvaceous, gridded glass roof covering over the hub, with glass walls and doors creating a seamless transition from inside and out.

Inside, part of the roofline merges down with the ground, creating a funnel-like gridded pillar inside. More private rooms nearby are also enclosed with glass.

Uber Elevate says the conceptual scheme showcases "what aerial ride-sharing hubs could look like in the future in the Bay Area".



*Foster + Partners' skyport proposal for Santa Clara is topped with a undulating roof*

Images also reveal a minimal departing and arrival area featuring curving dark seats and with low back coffee tables. Floors are also dark and merge with the ground outside.

It is believed the skyport will link with the central highway in the new Santa Clara neighbourhood, which is intended to serve as a "major traffic artery" for both air and car traffic. It also divides a swath of office buildings on one side from housing and commercial structures opposite.

### **Foster + Partners among number of firms designing skyports**



the world's first aerial rideshare network. It plans to be an alternative to transporting people across cities via car, and claims air travel costs will be "the same price as an UberX trip of the same distance".

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Foster + Partners are among a number of [leading architecture firms that have developed conceptual proposals for these "skysports"](#), including Shop Architects and Gensler.

Santa Clara's hub will join other locations that are set to open in Los Angeles and Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas in the next few years.

The announcement of the skyport follows news that Uber Elevate is partnering with Related Companies as the developer of the hubs. The collaboration will see Related develop Uber Air Skyports across the US for commercial aerial ridesharing.

Renderings are by Foster + Partners.

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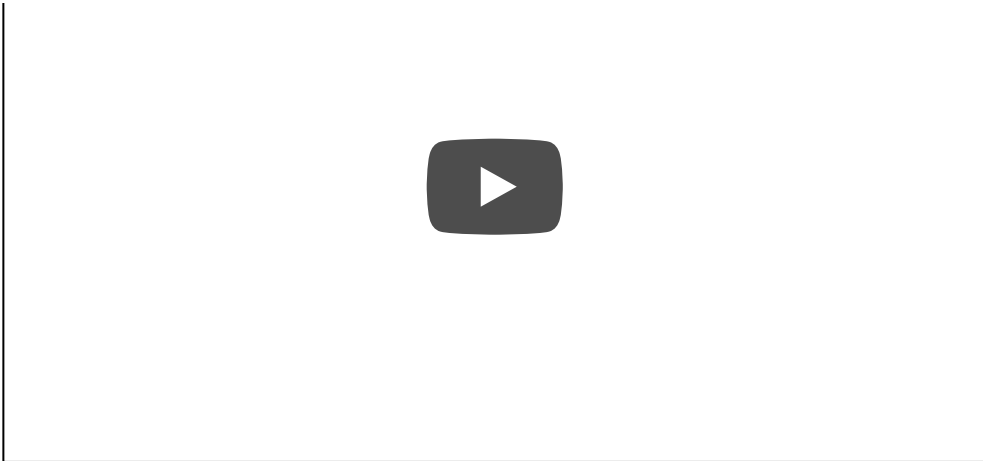
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As soon as I read 'Foster & Partners' I could've predicted how this travesty would've turned out. When will people stop asking F&P to design boring, anodyne, glass and metal buildings that will tarnish the world for many resentful generations to come?

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**AlfredHitchcock** • 2 years ago

"Air skyport"! In other words, airport.

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But there is not going to be any Uber electric air taxis. It is an unfeasible dream.

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**Davide** • 2 years ago • edited

Promotional renderings lacking any architectural or technical content. The "luminous, gridded glass roof" visible in the image





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