

PUBLIC MARKET WILL START NEXT YEAR

42-Acre Remake To Add Restaurants and Shops



Restaurants and plazas will have a view of the port and the Trades-built Vincent Thomas Bridge.

BY LESLIE BERKMAN

The long-anticipated rebuilding and revitalization of the San Pedro waterfront into a major visitor center is planned to start in 2021 under a Project Labor Agreement with the LA/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.

The \$150 million San Pedro Public Market will be a collaboration of the Ratkov-

ich Company and Jerico Development and feature a wide variety of restaurants, shops and year-round activities on 42 waterfront acres. The first phase of the project is anticipated to open to the public in 2022.

Matt Construction, the general contractor, entered into the PLA with the Building Trades. “Our PLA ensures the project construction team will have access to the highly trained, highly skilled union work-

force needed for us to build this world-class destination,” the developers and Matt Construction said in a joint statement.

The exact timing of construction is uncertain because of potential delays associated with the Coronavirus pandemic.

Los Angeles City Councilman Joe Buscaino, whose district covers San Pedro, said the project is the “front door” of the Port of Los Angeles. He said, “We have been wait-

ing for this for decades. It is here.”

He also praised the PLA with the Building Trades.

“I am always happy to learn that a strong PLA is accompanying projects in my district like the PLA at the San Pedro Public Market,” Councilman Buscaino told “Building Trades News.” “PLAs are important to ensure that workers are paid fairly, properly trained, and kept safe on



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the job site.”

The project’s first phase includes a 30-foot-wide promenade running parallel to the port’s Main Channel for about a mile, ending at a 4-acre town square that will be built at Sixth Street and Harbor Blvd. The promenade will become part of the California Coastal Trail and connect the greater LA region to the waterfront.

In addition, the first-phase development will provide about 150,000 square feet of what will be up to 375,000 square feet of dining, retail, entertainment and open space at the project’s completion.

Visitors to San Pedro Public Market will choose from a wide variety of food ser-

vice operations that will operate out of converted shipping containers, with outdoor seating, fire pits and a stage for live music and dancing. Also there are plans for an indoor food hall in the main building with a variety of food and beverage stalls and markets to showcase the city’s diversity and food innovation.

“San Pedro Public Market will provide an opportunity for small-scale businesses to deliver a wide variety of food options that represent the diversity of LA,” said Wayne Ratkovich, President and chief executive of the Ratkovich Company.

Restaurant patrons will have up-close views of the ships moving in and out of North America’s largest port.

A 6,000-seat open-air amphitheater operated by the Nederlander Organization also is proposed on the waterfront with the Battleship USS Iowa Museum as a dramatic backdrop.

Open space will be designed for family activities ranging from playgrounds to bocce ball courts.

Visitors will reach the waterfront stores, eateries and entertainment in multiple ways, with access provided by public walkways, bike and scooter paths and a trolley as well as waterfront taxis and public boat slips. Waterfront cruises also are



The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is a big attraction on the waterfront.

envisioned.

San Pedro Public Market will in part replace Ports O’Call Village, which opened in the early 1960s and was once a major draw for visitors but saw its popularity fade by 1990. Most of the buildings in the village already have been torn down.

The new project was designed by architects and urban planners Rapt Studio, James Corner Field Operations, Adamson Associates and Studio One Eleven.

“The design is going to feel new, but still like it’s been part of this community forever. It’s true to the site as a working port and true to the heritage of San Pedro as an industrial location,” said Sam Farhang, President of Rapt Studio.



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—Councilman Joe Buscaino



The first phase of the Public Market is slated to open in 2022.

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