

Marina del Rey Redevelopment

Marina del Rey holds the title as the largest man-made small craft recreational harbor in the United States and the world, although this title is threatened by the soon to be completed Dubai Marina in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Dedicated in April 1965 after major recreation amenities were completed, Marina del Rey has become Los Angeles County's "Crown Jewel" and one of its largest revenue generators.

The Marina is situated on an 804-acre site (403 acres of water, 401 acres landside) and features 2 miles of main channel, 3 miles of side basins, 7-1/2 miles of concrete bulkheads and a 2,340-foot offshore breakwater. Public recreation facilities include four parks - Burton Chace Park being the largest and most diverse - a public beach, sailing lagoon, a public launch ramp for trailered boats and launch area for hand-carried watercraft. Marina del Rey offers more than 4,500 recreational boat slips and the boat launching ramps provide access to over 100,000 trailer-class boats annually.

The Marina has six hotels with over 1,000 rooms for overnight visitors. There is approximately 1,000,000 square feet of commercial space including office, retail, and restaurants. Outside of New York City, the Marina has the highest density of restaurant seating in a one-square-mile area. All commercial ventures are leaseholds on County owned land managed by the Department of Beaches and Harbors. Moreover, Marina del Rey is part of a vision that keeps growing.

For 25 years, Marina del Rey enjoyed strong name recognition as a vacation and entertainment destination. As Marina del Rey enters its fifth decade, it faces many challenges and questions about its future. The remaining terms on most leases has reached a point where traditional long-term financing is increasingly difficult to obtain, lessees are considering new proposals for redevelopment and leaseholds, and the Marina's infrastructures are aging. Additionally, Marina del Rey faces competition from other Westside destinations. The Department of Beaches and Harbors has already begun to address the issues of preserving and enhancing the Marina's prestigious identity through second-generation development. This will ensure that when the majority of existing leaseholds recycle, the Marina will be a viable, exciting area, capable of continuing to produce substantial revenues for the County, while serving the needs of both the recreational boater and the community at large for water oriented recreation.

The Local Coastal Plan (LCP) for the Marina was amended in 1996 to authorize new and different types of visitor serving, coastal-access developments. Thereafter, the Department designed, and is now implementing several major renovations and additions to the recreational, entertainment, retail, housing and dining facilities in the Marina. The Department's goal for the Marina is to attract quality developers to assist in redeveloping Marina waterfront property into an attractive and exciting place to live, work, or visit so that it can be competitive with other Westside destinations in attracting visitors and businesses.

Redevelopment is underway and will continue in order to maintain the Marina's status as the County's "Crown Jewel." The Department of Beaches and Harbors would like to keep the community informed on all new construction and redevelopment efforts. To that end pictures and brief descriptions of the proposed redevelopments will be displayed here. Information will be updated as it becomes available.