

Coast Guard Breaks Ground on New Cutter Support facility at Base Los Angeles/Long Beach



Debra Chinn, a member of the Coast Guard Facility Design and Construction Center, Rear Adm. Carola List, the Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Engineering and Logistics, Robert Pitcock, a project executive for Gilbane, Vice Adm. Michael McAllister, the Coast Guard Pacific Area commander, and Capt. Lisa Sharkey, Coast Guard Base Los Angeles/Long Beach commanding officer, participate in a ground breaking ceremony for a new cutter support facility at Base Los Angeles/Long Beach, July 28, 2021. *U.S. COAST GUARD / Petty Officer 1st Class Richard W. Brahm*

SAN PEDRO, Calif. – The Coast Guard broke ground Wednesday on a new facility at Base Los Angeles/Long Beach in San Pedro that will be home to the service's newest additions to its

fleet, the Coast Guard 11th District said in a July 28 release.

Located at 1001 S. Seaside Avenue, the new \$35 million, 11,500 square-foot Naval Engineering Department facility is scheduled to be an extension to the existing Maintenance Augmentation Team (MAT) building that will support the Coast Guard's first two offshore patrol cutters.

The 360-foot Coast Guard Cutter Argus (WMSM 915) and Coast Guard Cutter Chase (WMSM 916) are under construction and expected to arrive in late 2022/early 2023. The offshore patrol cutters will join the four 154-foot fast response cutters – Forrest Rednour, Robert Ward, Terrell Horne, and Benjamin Bottoms – and the 175-foot buoy tender, the Coast Guard Cutter George Cobb (WLM 564), currently stationed at Base LA/LB.

Once completed in October 2022, the facility will accommodate approximately 60 personnel who will provide maintenance, weapon, and naval engineering support for the fast response and offshore patrol cutters. In addition to the building, a new 257-foot pier extension is scheduled to be built to make room for the Chase. Improvements are also slated for the existing Electronics Support Detachment and warehouse on the base.

“Every Coast Guard mission starts and ends at a base. This new cutter support facility will enhance the capabilities of future Coast Guard cutters to meet critical mission needs in a demanding and constantly evolving maritime environment,” said Vice Adm. Michael F. McAllister, commander U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area. “The Coast Guard's first two offshore patrol cutters will be homeported at Base Los Angeles-Long Beach and this facility will provide the operational support needed to ensure future Coast Guard crews can accomplish their mission successfully.”

With the addition of the two new offshore patrol cutters, the base will require more space and staff to support the growing fleet. Personnel at Base LA/LB nearly doubled since 2018.

The offshore patrol cutters are the newest vessels in the Coast Guard's fleet. The state-of-the-art ships are scheduled to replace the service's 270-foot and 210-foot medium-endurance cutters and will be used to patrol the open ocean in the most demanding maritime environments.