

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is AltaSea?

AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles is an innovative public-private partnership, which brings together science, business and education to generate solutions to global sustainability issues. Located on an iconic 35-acre campus, AltaSea works to demonstrate how the ocean is integral to the well-being of humankind and the health of the planet.

Why is AltaSea needed?

Humanity has dangerously mismanaged the ocean, which is Earth's irreplaceable habitat. The destruction of ocean resources has a profound and direct impact on humanity's ability to feed itself, to maintain its health, to manage its growing energy demands, and to enable sustainable economic progress.

The endangered ocean needs a central destination for research, education, advocacy and entrepreneurial innovation, where the best minds can be convened on problems and opportunities to heal the relationship between humankind and its vast ocean habitats. AltaSea is that destination.

How does AltaSea bring together science, business and education to address global sustainability issues?

AltaSea is constructing a state of the art ocean-based marine research facility, one of the very few in the world adjacent to an urban area with an existing network of higher education institutions. The best minds in marine science can access the vastness of the ocean from Los Angeles. At AltaSea, they will develop creative and cross-disciplinary solutions to crucial ocean sustainability issues like sea level rises, fisheries management, wind/wave/algae energy, biotech opportunities, and water and air pollution.

AltaSea also provides space and resources for new and existing businesses that seek to commercialize scientific breakthroughs and emerging technologies, spurring development of an advanced ocean-related products and services cluster in Los Angeles.

AltaSea's education and interpretive center will become a major Los Angeles destination for students and visitors of all ages; where all can learn how the ocean is integral to the well-being of humankind and the health of the planet, and what scientific and business leaders at AltaSea are doing to restore its vibrancy.



How was AltaSea established?

Several years ago, amidst growing global consensus that the ocean cannot continue on its current track, the Port of Los Angeles and the Annenberg Foundation leadership formed the idea of putting a world-class, academic marine research facility at a site on the San Pedro waterfront. That concept grew into the AltaSea Masterplan to create a hub for scientific, entrepreneurial and educational collaboration, coalescing around the need to reimagine and re-engineer humankind's relationship with the ocean. AltaSea was established in 2013 and assumed its status as a stand-alone nonprofit corporation in 2014.

What are AltaSea's current activities?

AltaSea is hard at work on the implementation of its Masterplan, which includes planning and design for AltaSea's permanent location, preparing the campus for its use as a business hub, and securing long-term partnerships with innovative science, business and educational institutions. AltaSea leaders are also actively engaging scientists, entrepreneurs, donors, the Harbor communities, and greater Los Angeles to join them in AltaSea's crucial sustainability mission.

Already an engaged member of San Pedro community, AltaSea's ongoing local collaborations include the Discovery Lecture Series presented by AltaSea and the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Where is AltaSea located?

AltaSea currently operates out of downtown San Pedro. The site of AltaSea's permanent home is known as City Dock No. 1. It is an iconic, historic pier on the San Pedro waterfront, originally constructed in 1913. It is the site of the six-story Municipal Warehouse No. 1, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

What are the key features of AltaSea's campus?

AltaSea includes 4,100 linear feet of waterfront dock and wharf space with direct harbor and ocean access, as well as multiple deep draft berths to accommodate large research vessels. It will feature more than 400,000 square feet of adaptable research and development space for co-location of marine scientists, researchers, educators and industry entrepreneurs. With circulating seawater labs and a marine life support system throughout the facility, AltaSea will also house classrooms, lecture halls, an interpretive center, support facilities, and offices.



When will construction begin?

Planning for wharf improvements, Phase 0 and interim use has already begun. Permitting and design will take two years, with construction scheduled to begin in early 2017.

When will the project be completed?

The entire 35-acre AltaSea campus will be built in three phases over the next 15-20 years. Phase 1 is anticipated to be completed in 2019.

Has AltaSea secured any tenants?

AltaSea's Phase 1 anchor tenant is the Southern California Marine Institute (SCMI), a consortium representing a strategic alliance of 12 major universities in Southern California. SCMI supports various marine science research projects and programs that include water quality monitoring in the Port of Los Angeles and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Ship of Opportunity Program.

What is the projected cost of AltaSea?

Phase 1 is estimated to cost \$217 million. The entire 35-acre campus is expected to cost more than \$600 million.

How will AltaSea be funded?

Funding commitments for Phase 1 of the project already tally \$82 million. Commitments to date include \$57 million in site-related capital investments by the Port of Los Angeles and a \$25 million gift from the Annenberg Foundation to get the project underway. The remainder of Phase 1 funding will come from private philanthropic donations, foundation and corporate grants, business sponsorships and other sources.

How will AltaSea help the Los Angeles economy?

As part of AltaSea's assessment of the proposed development, Kosmont Companies was asked to evaluate the potential economic benefits of AltaSea. As a result of its analysis, Kosmont estimates that AltaSea will result in the following economic benefits:

- Total one-time construction-related economic benefits of approximately \$747.1 million for the initial phases and over \$425.0 million for subsequent phases; a combined total of approximately \$1.17 billion;
- Overall support of approximately 4,200 one-time, one-year, full-time-equivalent construction related jobs for the initial phases, and more than 2,300 for the subsequent phases; a combined total of more than 6,500 jobs; and
- Ongoing annual economic activity of approximately \$169.2 million for the initial phases driven by more than 380 research-related jobs (approximately 810 including



indirect and induced employment) and \$121.0 million driven by almost 240 research-related jobs for the subsequent phases (approximately 540 including indirect and induced employment); a combined total of \$290.3 million and more than 620 research-related jobs (a combined total of approximately 1,350 including indirect and induced employment).

The anticipated economic results use rigorous and conservative modeling of the construction and operation of the AltaSea campus. Part of AltaSea's mission includes catalyzing the creation of new businesses and industries to commercialize scientific breakthroughs and emerging technologies that address aspects of the sustainability challenge. To that end, AltaSea will work with intent to nurture entrepreneurship and innovation on the campus. AltaSea is optimistic that this strategy will spur the development of new businesses and industries with profit potential and economic benefits beyond what an econometric input/output model can measure.