

# New design team brought on to refine Ports O' Call replacement look

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Robert Casillas

Ports O' Call Restaurant in San Pedro is among businesses slated to close to make way for redevelopment. Photo: Robert Casillas

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Boasting a new design team, San Pedro waterfront developers are preparing to unveil refreshed, updated renderings as talks continue with potential tenants for the San Pedro Public Market that will replace iconic Ports O' Call Village.

Now on board with The Ratkovich Co. and Jerico Development are [James Corner Field Operations](#) and [Rapt Studio](#).

The new designs will be unveiled at 6 p.m. March 20 during a town hall meeting sponsored by the Port of Los Angeles. It will be held at the Warner Grand Theatre, 478 W. Sixth St., San Pedro.

"We believe we've assembled a world-class team" that has completed prominent projects throughout the country, said Milan Ratkovich, senior development manager for The Ratkovich Co. "This design that we are unveiling on the 20th we think fits really well with San Pedro and

is much more authentic.”

Construction on the first phase of the development is set to begin in the third quarter of 2019, with the opening 12-18 months after that, he said.

“We are excited to bring them to San Pedro so San Pedro can experience that same quality and experience that have been brought to other places,” Ratkovich said.;

Ratkovich described the updated look as an “evolution of the plan and design” presented to the community two years ago.

Demolition of some of the existing Ports O’ Call Village is getting underway, a process that must be done first by the Port of Los Angeles before developers can begin construction on the new development.

The San Pedro Fish Market, Crusty Crab and Cafe International will remain open during construction, he said. The smaller shops were vacated early this year following eviction notices issued by the port. Both Ports O’ Call Restaurant and Acapulco must leave March 1.

Ratkovich confirmed that talks are ongoing with Ports O’ Call Restaurant and Spirit Cruises to secure a spot for those long-standing businesses in the new development when it is built.

“We are talking with five local San Pedro restaurants and cruise operators,” Ratkovich said. “They’re already part of the community and part of the fabric of San Pedro, so we would love for them to, in some cases, remain (on the waterfront) and, in some cases, for others to expand into the (waterfront) development.”