

Los Angeles port commission approves SpaceX rocket facility

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Los Angeles harbor commissioners have approved a permit for Space Exploration Technologies to build a facility on 19 acres of port land to manufacture a Mars rocket that will be so big it will require an oceangoing barge for transport to launch sites.

SpaceX founder Elon Musk says the rocket will serve a wide range of missions including going to Mars.

The permit approved Thursday has an initial 10-year term with two 10-year options to extend.

SpaceX will receive credits that offset the approximately \$1.38 million in annual rent in exchange for improvements it makes, including construction of a huge hangar-style building. Overall credits are capped at \$44 million.

The deal is expected to be reviewed by the City Council.

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