



FACT SHEET

San Diego County Public Health Laboratory

- Project Cost: \$93 million
- Ground Broken: Oct. 4, 2023
- Ribbon Cutting: May 29, 2025
- Square footage: 52,000
- Height: Two stories, 38 feet
- Developer: Lowe
- Contractor: BNBuilders
- Architect: Steinberg Hart
- **Key lab equipment:**
 - Autoclaves: Five pieces of equipment to sterilize biological waste, sterilize media and sterilize laboratory tools and collection bottles
 - Biological Safety Cabinets and Glove Box: Protects the workers from dangerous biological pathogens and aerosols
 - Chemical Fume Hoods: Used to safely work with chemicals in the laboratory
 - Glassware washer and Drying Oven: Used to clean laboratory glassware and tools
 - Gene Sequencers: Three pieces of equipment
 - PCR Instruments: Used to amplify DNA and RNA
 - Extractors: Used to extract and prep for PCR
 - Automation: Robots to automate and assist with repetitive tasks
 - Mass Spectrometer: To identify bacteria
 - High-throughput automated testing: Five pieces of equipment
- **Number of employees:** about 100, which includes contract staff, temporary staff and Association of Public Health Laboratories Fellows
- **Multiple sustainable measures and features**
 - Lab is on track for LEED Platinum certification.
 - 55 percent of energy consumption has been offset by solar panels
 - 23 percent reduction in embodied carbon during manufacturing and transportation of building materials by using materials, such as low carbon concrete, steel, and metal panels
 - 50kW battery storage integrated into the Lab's rooftop solar panels to extend self-generated energy use into early evening
 - Energy savings through strategically integrating natural lighting
 - New \$32.5 million, 725-space, six floor parking structure features 147 charging stations for electric vehicles
 - Solar panels on Lab and Garage roof will meet about 60 percent of electricity demand.



- **Fun Facts**

- A time capsule buried in May 2025 by the lab team will be opened in May 2035
- A COVID Memorial was created to honor and remember the pandemic
- The Lab expects to conduct about 50,000 tests annually
- The Lab is regulated by CLIA, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) and Division of Select Agents and Toxins (DSAT)
- The building's electrical and mechanical systems that support the labs are designed in such a way that they can be easily reconfigured to fit emerging testing needs.

- **Public Art:**

- Lab includes three pieces of public art coordinated by Gail Goldman of Gail M. Goldman Associates.
- Einar & Jamex De la Torre, outdoor sculpture depicting a classic classroom microscope with three blown glass eye lenses.
- YC Kim, Elements in Nature which is comprised of 630 individual hand-made porcelain elements inspired by the various stages of the moon.
- Jason Lane, four Tessellation Benches with integrated monolith planters embellished with 100 hand-cast sculptural concrete tiles.

- **County Operations Center Campus:**

- 47 acres
- Opened in October 2010
- Four major office buildings housing multiple County departments
- Register of Voters building
- Sheriff Crime Lab
- Public Health Lab
- Public hearing chambers
- Medical Examiner's Office
- Emergency Operations Center
- Three parking structures
- 39 pieces of public art
- 350 fleet, employee and public charging stations as of June 30, 2025
- 3.33MW Solar across all the rooftops
- 550kW battery storage (including new batteries on PHL roof)
- 11 LEED Cert buildings (12 when PHL is certified)