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Waterbar and Epic Roasthouse

Decade-long quest brings \$20M eateries to waterfront

San Francisco Business Times - by [Sarah Duxbury](#)

Epic Roasthouse and Waterbar are the first privately owned, ground-up construction on San Francisco's waterfront in 100 years, and they only took a decade to come to life.

A decade, and some \$20 million.

All that remains of the original project as envisioned by chef Reed Hearon is the footprint of the two buildings. The developer, [JMA Ventures](#), took the project over in 2002 following the dot-com bust. Todd Chapman, a principal with JMA, then went looking for a restaurateur he thought was up to the grand ambitions of the site.

"We talked to a lot of folks about the project, and at the end of the day, this is the largest restaurant project in San Francisco. For something of this scale and complexity, there are a lot of great chefs out there, but not a lot of chefs with the organization around them to handle a project this big," Chapman said.

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