Biodistrict New Orleans

BioDistrict New Orleans is a state-enabled development district created by Louisiana in 2005. This district has the responsibility of growing both pragmatic and physical development components of the biosciences sector. The 1,500 acre district spans over the downtown and Mid-City areas of New Orleans bounded by Earhart Boulevard, Carrollton Avenue, Loyola Avenue, and Iberville Street. The BioDistrict will contain world class facilities that conduct biosciences research and development and provide local, regional and global healthcare.

The BioDistrict Board of Commissioners consists of 12 members. Board members include representatives from Xavier University, Delgado Community College, Louisiana State University, Tulane University, Ochsner Health System, and is currently fully seated. The Board also includes four appointments by the Governor of Louisiana as well as one appointment from the Department of Louisiana Economic Development. In addition, the Mayor of New Orleans has three appointments representing individuals from GNO, Inc., The New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, The Business Council of New Orleans and River Region, and a seat for the Mayor at Large, currently filled by Deputy Mayor of New Orleans, Andy Kopplin.

BioDistrict New Orleans received a $2.4 million grant by the Louisiana Recovery Authority to conduct a four-phase, 14 month master planning process. The Master Planning team consists of AECOM, CB Richard Ellis, Cannon Design, Chester Engineering, the Ehrhardt Group, and Bright Moments. This process will offer a blueprint for the development of the biosciences industry in New Orleans.

Some of the new projects stemming from the creation of the BioDistrict are the Veterans Affairs Hospital, the new University Medical Center, Louisiana Cancer Research Center, and the New Orleans BioInnovation Center. Other existing improvements include Champions Square, Benson Tower, and the renovation of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The BioDistrict’s existing facilities include Xavier University, LSU Health Sciences Center, Tulane University Medical Center, Delgado Community College, and Dillard University.

The Bioinnovation Center

In September 2011, the $47 million New Orleans BioInnovation Center opened its doors with a 66,000 square foot Center that offers a state of the art wet lab, office, and conference space. The Center is located in the middle of a community made up of hospitals, medical universities, research centers, and biotech businesses. It will be able to house more than 80 companies allowing for over 200 jobs.

The Bioinnovation Center will provide support and guidance to emerging biotechnology companies commercializing technologies derived from primarily New Orleans based Universities. Funded by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, the Center will cater to a wide scope of companies, ranging from pre-startups and start-ups to maturing and expanding businesses. Some of the Center’s benefits include innovative programming, world-class facilities, and networking opportunities with local, regional, and national firms.

Aside from active participation with the local biotech development, The Center also raises awareness on research commercialization as a potential outcome for academic research. The Center provides educational seminars to support this goal. Commercial Awareness targets academic bioscience researchers aimed at educating faculty on IP-awareness, institutional technology transfer policies, and entrepreneurship. Bridging Louisiana Bioscience targets existing Louisiana companies in order to promote collaboration and awareness of biotech activity in the area.

New Orleans BioInnovation Networking Group is a non-profit initiative founded to support and facilitate biotech entrepreneurship. Bioscience Angel Capital in New Orleans and Innovation and Technology Leadership promote commercial awareness for researchers. The facility connects Canal Street with the emerging technology of the biosciences. A 3,000 square foot interior courtyard is visible from the Canal Street side through the Center’s transparent glass façade. The building is protected by operable sunscreens to limit energy costs, create comfortable lighting for its occupants, and

Medical Innovation

$3 billion dollars of capital is being invested in the district. 22,000 jobs will be created from the development.
provide storm protection. Interior public amenities include a flexible 100-person conferencing center, a 2,000 square foot retail/food service area, and an interior atrium facing the courtyard.

**The Cancer Research Center**
Conveniently located on Tulane Avenue between LSU Health Sciences Center and Tulane University Health Sciences Center, the new Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium is scheduled to open in early 2012. This $102 million Center will be a shared 150,000 square foot facility with state of the art cancer research equipment. The Center will begin to establish New Orleans as a hub for state-of-the-art medical research, quality healthcare, and a teaching center for the next generation.

Over the years, the Research Center will provide hundreds of jobs through grants obtained and outside funding. The LCRC has developed a collaborative cancer alliance whose mission is to develop a coordinated cancer research and education program that optimizes discovery and development of innovative cancer therapies; lead to innovative clinical treatment programs offering new opportunities for early detection, treatment, and prevention of cancer in our region; and promote regional economic growth. LCRC researchers attract over $30 million in federal cancer research grant funding per year to the region, despite decreased federal research budgets and sharply increased competition.

**The Project Legacy VA Hospital**
The $1 billion New Orleans replacement Medical Center is approximately 1.6 million square feet with two additional 1000-car garages for both patients and staff. It will be located on an approximately 30-acre site in New Orleans, bounded by Canal Street, S. Galvez Street, Tulane Avenue and S. Rocheblave Street providing 1,100 new permanent jobs. Construction is expected to be completed in late 2014 with full activation in 2015. $995 million of funding has been provided through confirmed Congress appropriations.

The new Medical Center will serve over 70,000 enrolled Veterans. The Hospital will include an in-patient component, a diagnostic and treatment component emergency department, an imaging center, interventional center, and an outpatient component. Additionally, 7,000 square feet of conference space and individual workroom space is available throughout the facility. Smart classrooms, conference rooms, integrated cameras in operating rooms, robotic surgery, and wireless technology are included in the facility.
Once fully operational, the project is expected to support 140 protocols with over $2.5 million in funding. The Hospital will incorporate mental illness research and an education coordinating center.

The University Medical Center
Situated on 34 acres on a square bounded by Canal Street, South Galvez, Tulane Avenue and South Claiborne Avenue, the $1.2 billion medical center will be the cornerstone of a biomedical district that will attract the world's top medical professionals while delivering high quality health care, advanced research and Level One trauma care. The $1.2 billion UMC hospital project will be funded using a mix of state and federal funds, including $300.6 million in state capital outlay dollars, $435.3 million in FEMA funds awarded to the state by a federal arbitration panel, and another $194.5 million anticipated from an additional FEMA settlement. Construction is expected to be complete by beginning of 2014, generating an annual $1.26 billion economic impact and creating more than 19,700 permanent jobs.

In addition to inpatient services and trauma care, the Center will host a cancer program including radiation therapy and a chemotherapy clinic, outpatient surgery, outpatient imaging, and rehabilitation services. Treatment services are being designed to collaborate with the adjacent Veterans Affairs Medical Center by creating efficiencies through the location of adjacent diagnostic services and parallel outpatient services.

Communications systems will consist of active patient record systems that are part of a dynamic local area and wireless data networks that include a variety of telephone, teleconferencing, and nurse call systems. The electronic records system will also connect to Louisiana's new statewide electronic records system, which is in initial development stages.