

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND DON KNABE**

NOVEMBER 5, 2014

Implementing a Countywide Biotechnology Partnership Program

On August 5, 2014, the Board of Supervisors (Board) received a final feasibility assessment and master plan from Battelle Memorial Institute (Battelle) to advance the bioscience industry in Los Angeles County (County). The master plan and feasibility assessment was the result of a motion approved by the Board on February 11, 2011 to identify opportunities for potential private, academic and research partnerships at each of the County-owned hospital campuses.

The Battelle report affirms the County’s potential to become a national bioscience industry leader. The biosciences industry in the County grew nearly 12% from 2001 through 2010, outpacing the national bioscience industry by 6%. Los Angeles County has a strong research and innovation base offering several key technology platforms for growth but the County is losing its talent to other thriving biotech job markets because of the lack of venture capital investment and a limited real estate market for commercial lab space.

The Battelle report lays a strong foundation to rethink the County’s regional approach to growing the bioscience industry but is missing a detailed implementation plan to move the initiatives forward. The report also fails to identify biotech opportunities at all five medical campuses by excluding Olive View Medical Center and Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. These critical gaps call for additional work before the master plan can be considered and approved by the Board.

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MOTION

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**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND DON KNABE
NOVEMBER 5, 2014
PAGE 2**

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission (CDC), in consultation with the Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS), Chief Executive Officer, and County Counsel, to:

1. Immediately seek any necessary consulting resources in order to develop an implementation plan for the Los Angeles County Biotech Master Plan. In consultation with a bioscience working group, the consultant should develop a plan that identifies and addresses gaps in the Battelle report and responds to the feasibility criteria outlined in the February 11, 2011 motion approved by the Board of Supervisors (Board). The implementation plan should also incorporate all bioscience projects recently approved by the Board;
2. Convene a working group comprised of public and private bioscience experts including representatives from DHS medical center campuses, Workforce Investment Board, local academic institutions, and other key biotech and business stakeholders, such as LA BioMed, SoCal Bio, and the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation; and
3. Report back, in writing, to the Board within 90 days on the selection of a consultant, establishment of an advisory group, work plan and timeline for delivery of the implementation plan. A written report back should be provided every 60 days thereafter.

WE FURTHER MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Direct the Chief Executive Officer to:

1. Reallocate \$25,000 of Second District Economic Development funds appropriated in the Nondepartmental Special Accounts budget unit to the Project and Facility Development budget in order to facilitate the transfer of these funds to the Community Development Commission to cover costs for the Commission to fund initial consulting services which will include planning,

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND DON KNABE
NOVEMBER 5, 2014
PAGE 3**

assembly of a working group, implementation funding, a timeline and a written report to the Board; and

2. Execute a funding agreement with CDC in the amount of \$25,000 to initiate this work.

**WE ALSO MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ACTING AS THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:**

1. Authorize the Executive Director, or his designees, to accept and incorporate a total of \$25,000 of Second District Economic Development funds into the Commission's fiscal year 2014-15 budget; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director to take all necessary actions to facilitate the transfer of these funds.

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(VH/KS)