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CLICK ON HERE FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT ON DATED JULY 27, 2015
February 3, 2015

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Sean Rogan, Executive Director
        Community Development Commission

SUBJECT: REPORT BACK ON STATUS OF WORKING GROUP AND
        IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR COUNTYWIDE BIOSCIENCE
        PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

On August 5, 2014, your 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 Battelle report was a result of a motion approved by your Board on February 11, 2011 to identify opportunities for potential private, academic and research partnerships at each of the County-owned hospital campuses.

On November 5, 2014, your Board directed the Community Development Commission (Commission) to convene a working group comprised of public and private bioscience experts, and to seek any necessary consulting resources in order to develop an implementation plan for the Battelle report, in consultation with the working group.

The Commission assembled a working group of approximately 30 experts from the academic, public and private sectors with expertise in bioscience, biotechnology, finance, economic and workforce development. On February 2, 2015, the Commission hosted the working group for their initial meeting, facilitated by David Meyer, President and CEO of LA BioMed, a non-profit medical science research organization located on the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center campus.

The working group discussed the Battelle master plan’s recommendations of four key strategic initiatives: biosciences commercialization, commercial laboratory space development, biosciences talent, and marketing. The group then discussed the benefits of dividing into smaller groups for further in-depth discussion of each of these initiatives. The working group concluded that the role of a consultant should be to synthesize the knowledge and experience of group members in each of these subject areas, in order to provide an implementation plan for your Board on how County resources could be used to move each initiative forward. The group stressed that the plan should include specific and immediately implementable action items for the County to realize the goals set out in the Battelle master plan, and that the performance standards for the consultant should reflect this expectation.

Over the next 60 days, the Commission will work in consultation with the working group to solicit proposals for a consultant to develop the implementation plan. When the solicitation has been completed, we will return to your Board with a recommendation
and cost to hire the consultant. In accordance with the November 5, 2014 motion, the Commission will continue to report back to your Board every 60 days on the development of the implementation plan.

SR:nt

c: Each CDC Deputy
   Chief Executive Office
   County Counsel
   Department of Health Services
July 27, 2015

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Sean Rogan, Executive Director
       Community Development Commission

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The working group held its most recent meeting on June 26, 2015, which was held at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center Campus, and hosted by LA BioMed, a non-profit scientific research organization affiliated with Harbor-UCLA and the David Geffen UCLA School of Medicine.

The meeting began with a presentation by LA BioMed’s President, Dr. David Meyer, about the history of the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center Campus and LA BioMed, as well as highlights of the organization’s many accomplishments. Dr. Rubén D. Flores-Saaib, LA BioMed’s Vice President for Technology Transfer and Business Development, followed up with a presentation about the commercialization process for discoveries and innovations made at LA BioMed.
Doug Cohen of the Community Development Commission provided an update on the status of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to develop an Implementation Plan for the Battelle Report. The working group provided a final round of feedback, which was incorporated into the RFP.

The RFP was released on July 3, 2015. The Commission’s vendor list was used to email the RFP notice to 790 vendors. The RFP was also sent to working group participants in order to be forwarded to other potential respondents. Proposals are due by August 31, 2015. The next working group meeting has been tentatively scheduled for early September 2015, shortly after the RFP responses are due.