

Letters and Testimony for HF 5143 (Nelson)

Brooklyn Park BioTech Innovation District

Minnesota House Economic Development
Finance and Policy Committee

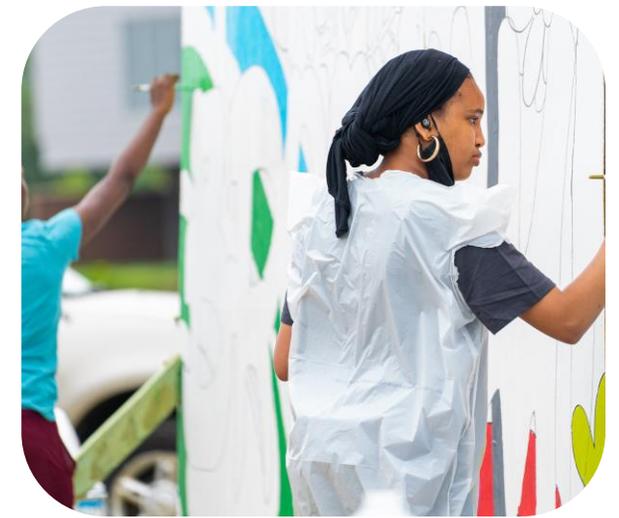
April 3, 2024

Brooklyn Park, a thriving community inspiring pride where opportunities exist for all!

NOTE: This data is for general reference only. It is not for legal, engineering, or surveying use. Please contact the sources of the information if you desire more details.
Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, MN Department of Education (MDE), MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Minneapolis Association of Realtors, City of Brooklyn Park.



**6th largest city in
Minnesota**



**1 in 4 residents were born
outside of the US**

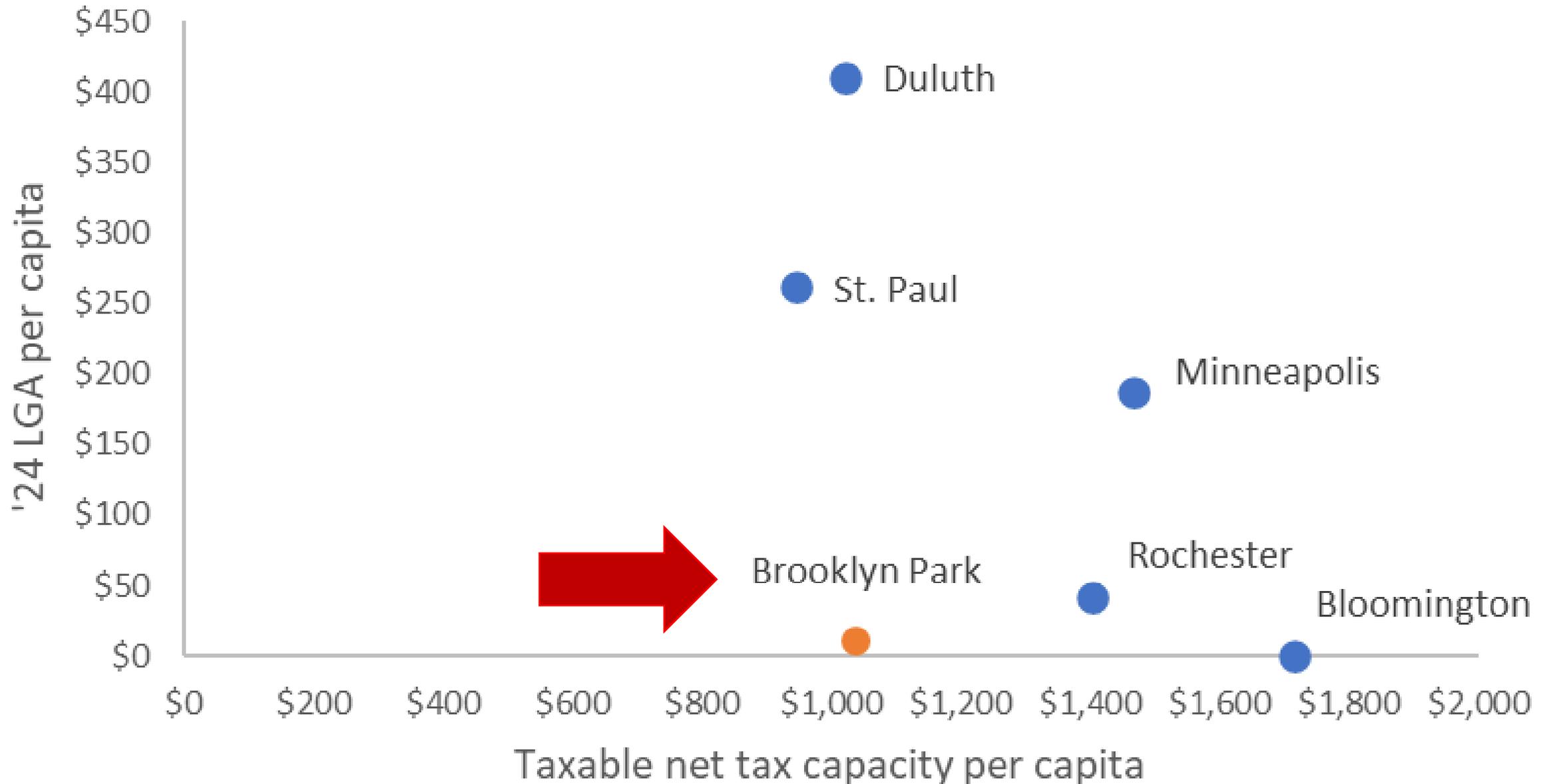


**The median age of
residents is 35**



**29% of residents speak a
language other than
English at home**

LGA per capita and Taxable Net Tax Capacity Per Capita



Economic Development Vision



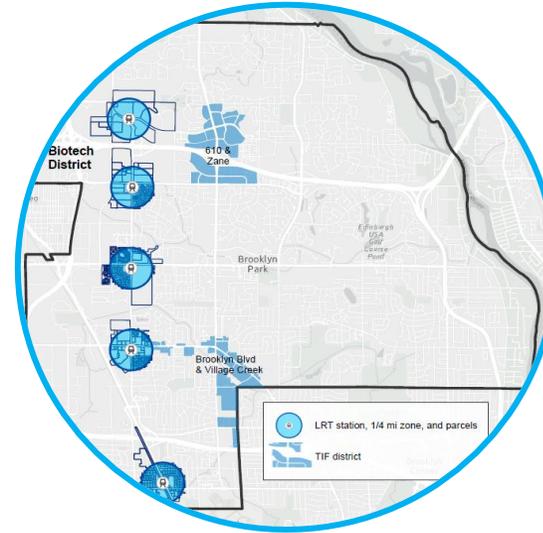
BioTech Innovation District

Establish Brooklyn Park BioTech Innovation District – infrastructure, workforce, business recruitment, and housing



Workforce Development

Investment from DEED resources in workforce and economic development



TIF/Value Capture Districts

Establish TIF/Value Capture districts to pay for critical infrastructure and drive private development



Small Business

Support to cities and nonprofit partners in developing small business centers, incubators, and other affordable commercial opportunities for small and BIPOC-owned businesses

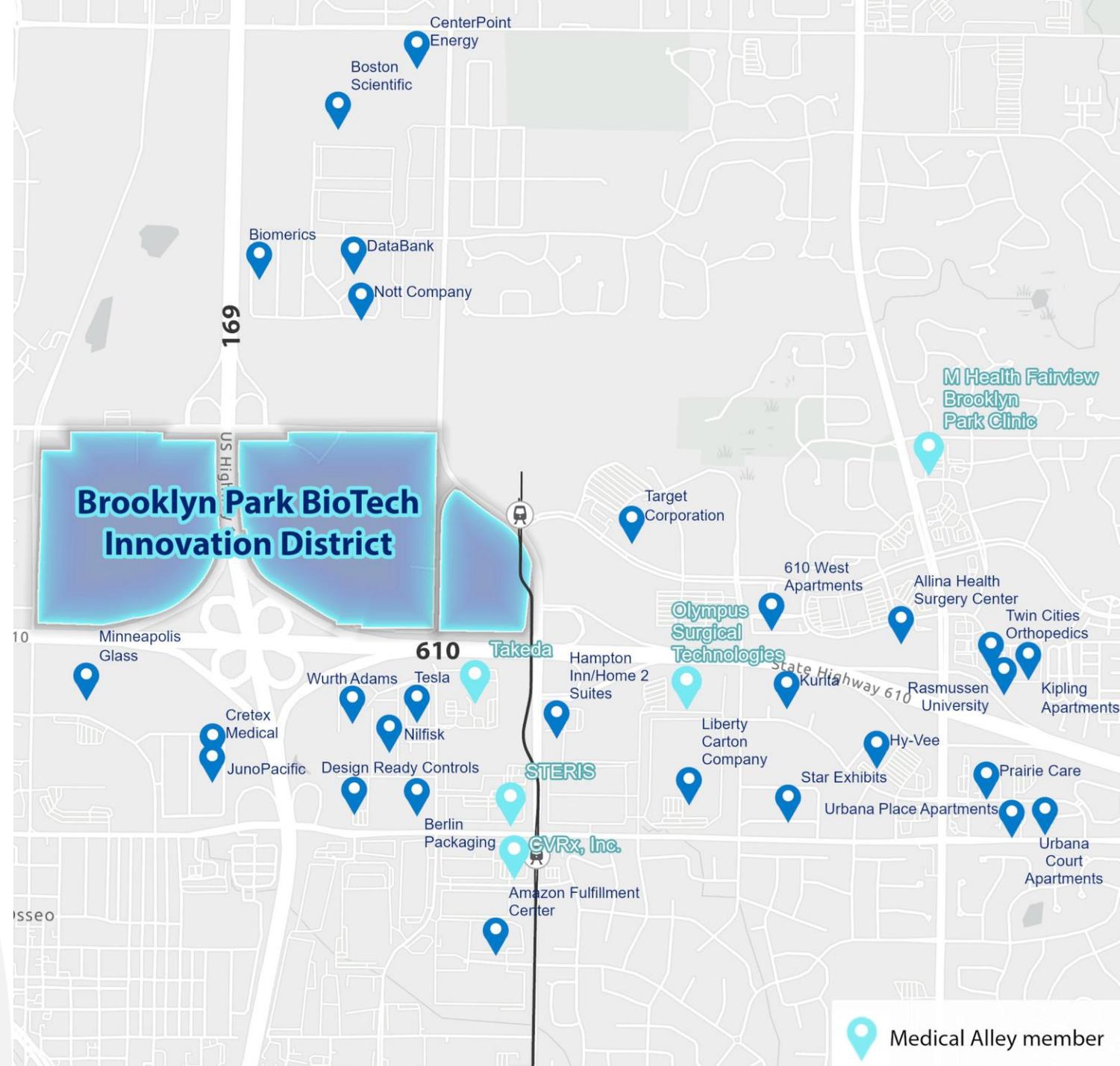
BioTech Innovation District



The District will be nestled in the heart of Medical Alley, north of Hwy 610 and on either side of Hwy 169.



Planned stops for the METRO Blue Line Extension light rail transit project will expand access to and through the District.



Target Corporate

Hwy 610

Hwy 169



Critical Investments



Water Infrastructure



Growing and Attracting Business



Workforce Development



Housing

Additional Testimony & Questions



BioTech Innovation District

Empower Brooklyn Park's future: An investment in prosperity

Where should the BioTech industry make its next home? Brooklyn Park is the answer.

A diverse metropolitan suburb boasting a population of nearly 90,000 residents, Brooklyn Park is the perfect place for a vibrant BioTech Innovation District.

The District is estimated to generate 10,000 new jobs and 3,000 additional housing units, playing a crucial role in addressing workforce disparities that disproportionately impact Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in Brooklyn Park and beyond.



Brooklyn Park is home to an ecosystem of MedTech companies, many of whom are members of Medical Alley: CVRx, Inc., Central Package and Display, Children's Minnesota (Hospitals & Clinics), Diversified Plastics Inc., Fairview Health Services, Medtronic, Olympus Surgical Technologies America, STERIS, and Takeda Pharmaceuticals.



Accelerate innovation in Brooklyn Park

Brooklyn Park is a partner in the MedTech 3.0 initiative, with deep support from Greater MSP and Medical Alley. Securing legislative support for the BioTech Innovation District will further help the city become a hub of regional growth and economic success, setting the standard for cities throughout Minnesota and beyond.



700 acres of developable land

With over 700 acres of developable land (*245 acres earmarked for the district*), Brooklyn Park can welcome the full slate of medical, pharmaceutical, manufacturing, and other BioTech industry companies into a vibrant mixed-use development district.



10,000 BioTech jobs

Brooklyn Park boasts two Minnesota State Colleges, a nursing college, and thriving workforce training and development infrastructure. The District is estimated to bring 10,000 new jobs to the city.

Our renowned BrookLynk program continues to train young adults, connecting them to lucrative employment. With nearly 20 percent of young people* living in the city, Brooklyn Park is growing diverse, next-generation talent.



Responsible, equitable investment

Brooklyn Park has long been a regional leader in supporting business. Our Small Business Center, a collaborative coworking space, offers a wide array of amenities, services, and training.

Our Brooklyn Park Development Corporation is focused on equitably supporting innovation across sectors, with offerings such as the BPDC Microloan Program.



Mix of housing options

Brooklyn Park's existing housing stock includes many affordable rental and homeownership opportunities, as well as move-up housing for executives in beautiful locations, including around the Edinburgh Golf Course and along the Mississippi River.

The BioTech District is proposed to include a mix of uses, including an estimated 3,000 additional housing units.

*2022 American Community Survey population 20-34, table s0101

Legislative Proposal 2024

Empower Brooklyn Park's future: An investment for prosperity

The challenge

Brooklyn Park is the sixth largest city in Minnesota, with a diverse population of over 60 percent Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) residents. Despite its rich offerings, the city has a modest tax base and has been left out of substantial state investment, compared to other similarly sized cities. This imbalance and lack of equitable investment means the funding burden for critical regional services (such as emergency response and enriching activities for youth) falls almost entirely on residents and local small businesses.



Brooklyn Park has long been a regional trailblazer with innovative wealth building programs like the BrookLynk Workforce Development Initiative, the Brooklyn Park Small Business Center, and the Brooklyn Park Development Corporation. However, such offerings are often limited in scope.

Brooklyn Park is home to over 87,000 residents, with the population expected to sharply increase in coming years.

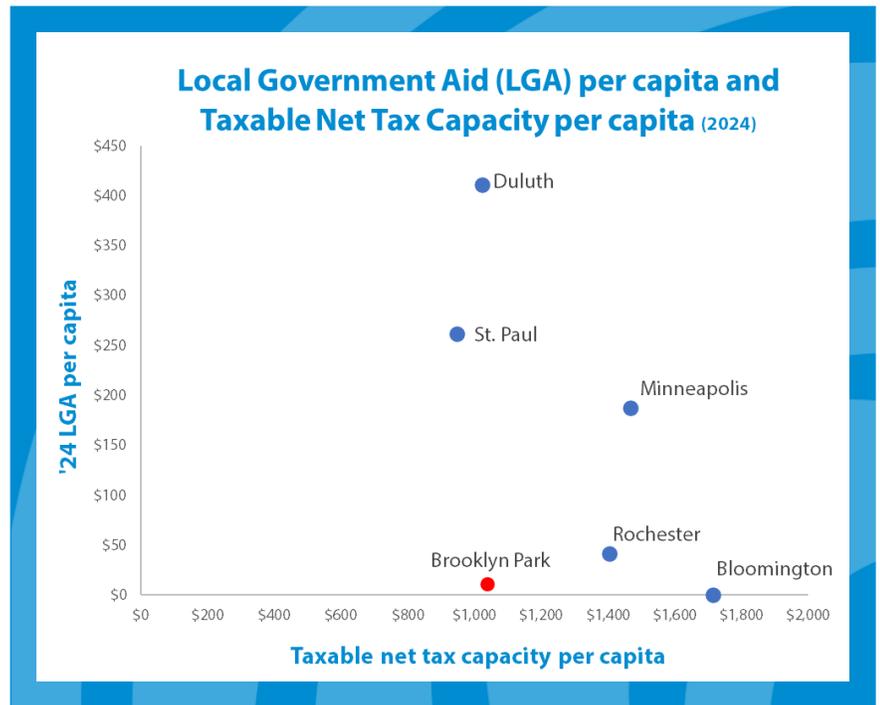
Brooklyn Park needs significant, equitable public investment and tax base growth now. Without it, the wealth gap between Brooklyn Park and other communities will continue to widen.

1 in 4 residents speaks a language other than English at home, and about a third of the city's residents are youth.

The city already faces disparities in public safety outcomes. City leaders request an investment to secure a bright future for all who call Brooklyn Park home.

Invest in Brooklyn Park

- **Establishment and public investment in a Bio-Tech Innovation District** at highways 610 and 169 and other tax base and community wealth building strategies.
- **Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Value Capture** in three target geographies to help attract private investment in housing and commercial areas.



The above chart reflects per capita investment of LGA funds in several cities. Brooklyn Park has missed critical funding, putting the city at risk of falling further behind economically.

The Proposal



BioTech Innovation District to attract businesses, as well as developing and connecting local workforce to jobs.



Public infrastructure such as roads, utilities, stormwater, and other amenities, to support high value-per-acre development.



Housing variety that promotes a mix of incomes in Brooklyn Park, bolstering a strong middle class.



Community wealth building strategies including support for the Small Business Center, BrookLynk Workforce Development and Career Pathways programs, and strategies to ensure equitable investment and reinvestment back into the community.



Why it matters

The city's growing Black and Brown middle class is poised to contribute to regional equity and long-term prosperity. As Brooklyn Park becomes a city of the first class, it is crucial that State leaders equitably invest in the sustained wellbeing of our community.

The economic health and infrastructure of a community are some of the greatest predictors of outcomes like homeownership and educational attainment.

Brooklyn Park is well positioned to generate its own destination jobs, entertainment, and cultural offerings. This comprehensive investment strategy will create a lasting impact, making Brooklyn Park a model for other cities. Furthermore, the strategy will create wealth, reduce statewide disparities, alleviate the financial burden on residents for generations to come, and enhance critical regional services and amenities for all.

Melissa Reed

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04/02/24

RE: HF 5143

Members of the House Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee,

Medical Alley represents a global network of more than 800 leading health technology and care companies including representation from all corners of the state of Minnesota. Our mission is to activate and amplify healthcare transformation.

Recognized worldwide as a leader in healthcare innovation, Minnesota sets a standard for excellence – impacting local communities and influencing global health outcomes and advancements. With access, affordability, and quality as top priorities, Medical Alley and our partners are committed to developing solutions which drive meaningful change and save lives.

It is with these guiding principles that we extend our support for House File 5143, which would establish a BioTech Innovation District in the city of Brooklyn Park.

Equitable Job Creation

Brooklyn Park is home to nearly 90,000 residents — 60% of which identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), and where one in four people speaks a language other than English at home. The city is Minnesota's sixth largest and one of the most diverse. Yet, Brooklyn Park faces disparities related to health, income, and public safety outcomes.

The establishment of a BioTech Innovation District would create as many as 10,000 quality and sustainable jobs to the benefit of residents of the city and those surrounding it. With a focus on inclusivity, the district would empower the region's diverse talents and perspectives, ensuring that development in biotechnology and healthcare directly contributes to improving the quality of life. This investment would also enable local programs like the BrookLynk Workforce Development Initiative to synergize with these advancements, amplifying its impact by connecting youth and underserved populations with education, training, and employment opportunities in the burgeoning biotech sector.

Innovation

Progress in the biotechnology industry has the potential to improve lives in ways we've only begun to imagine. From revolutionizing healthcare through personalized medicine and cutting-edge treatments to addressing global challenges such as food security, environmental sustainability, and disease prevention — biotechnology stands at the forefront of innovation.

The biotechnology market is anticipated to grow significantly, driven by increasing demand for diagnostics, therapies for major diseases, and biopharmaceutical research. The global biotechnology market, valued at \$1.38 trillion in 2023, is expected to reach \$4.25 trillion by 2033.

Brooklyn Park and Minnesota have a unique opportunity to leverage these advancements to position this region as a leader in this transformative industry. A mixed-used district would incentivize innovative companies to come to Minnesota, fostering a vibrant ecosystem where entrepreneurship and research thrive.

Economic Development

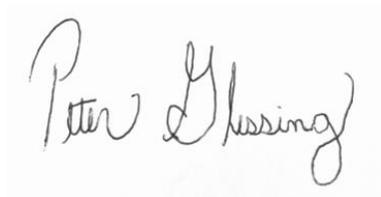
Brooklyn Park has been successful in attracting some of Medical Alley's leading health technology and care companies. International companies such as Medtronic, Steris, Olympus Surgical and more have all established a presence near the Highway 610 corridor. Still, there is significant room to grow within the city's borders.

With more than 700 developable acres of land, Brooklyn Park has the capacity to support medical and pharmaceutical manufacturing and other biotech industry companies into a vibrant mixed-use development district. Adjustments to Tax Increment Financing in three target geographic areas would catalyze private investment in housing and commercial areas. The BioTech Innovation District would support an estimated 3,000 additional housing units.

Medical Alley is home to one of the most diverse and influential healthcare ecosystems in the world. This initiative represents a strategic investment in the region's future. By establishing a BioTech Innovation District in Brooklyn Park, we set a standard for cities across Minnesota by demonstrating a proactive approach to harnessing the power of innovation for economic development and public health improvement. We believe this project will make the northwest metro a national and international destination for biotech manufacturing for Minnesota – attracting and growing new businesses, cultivating next-generation Minnesota workforce talent, incentivizing innovation, and reducing disparities throughout the region.

Medical Alley respectfully urges legislators to support House File 5143.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Glessing". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Peter Glessing

Senior Director of Policy & Advocacy

Medical Alley