

SOUTH DAKOTA RESEARCH PARKS

An Investment in Innovation

University research parks deliver a, “best practices” focus on innovation and sustaining economic competitiveness. South Dakota’s research universities and affiliated parks provide a platform to lead our state into a new era of research and innovation, new business startups, and broadened economic opportunity and prosperity for its citizens.

The Research Park at SDSU is an established park in Brookings and the USD Discovery District is currently under development in Sioux Falls. A third research park is being considered in Rapid City in cooperation with the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. All of these provide a broad base for innovation and economic development.

Collaborating to Achieve Research & Economic Development Goals

The USD Discovery District and the Research Park at SDSU are collaborating to assist the South Dakota Board of Regents in reaching its goal of increasing annual system research and contract expenditures to \$150 million by 2020 to advance knowledge, enhance technology transfer, commercialization, and catalyze economic development. Specifically, Goal #3 of the Regent’s Strategic Plan—Research and Economic Development—identifies increasing grant activity, expanding STEM education, and contributing to economic development by working with research universities and research parks to incubate new companies and attract science and technology companies to South Dakota.

Investing to Power Innovation

According to the 2013 Battelle Report on North American Research Parks, the vast majority of university research parks in the United States receive state government investment. The State’s two current research parks provide growth to the entire state economy and are located in forward thinking communities that have made strong commitments into growing the research economy. They have secured local investments for 2016 to fund baseline operations.

2016 Investments Secured

Research Park at SDSU:

- The City of Brookings – \$150,000
- Brookings County – \$50,000
- Vision Brookings – \$120,000
- State of SD/Board of Regents - \$100,000

USD Discovery District :

- The City of Sioux Falls – \$150,000
- Forward Sioux Falls – \$150,000
- University of South Dakota - \$150,000
- State of SD/Board of Regents - \$100,000



Return on Innovation Investment

Securing this investment is critical for the continued development of the Research Park at SDSU and the successful launch of the Discovery District to achieve their economic development objectives to:

1. Grow university research capacity, resources, and talent;
2. Connect universities with the private sector;
3. Foster entrepreneurship and commercialization; and
4. Create the physical infrastructure necessary to support research and innovation-based businesses.

Bioscience Strategy Development & Execution

- **Partners:** BioSNTR, Research Park at SDSU, Discovery District & Governor's Office of Economic Development
- **Phase I:** Leverage capabilities and competencies of partners and develop strategy that aligns with the GOED focus to grow the Bioscience industry and economy in the State of South Dakota.
- **Phase II:** Shared execution of strategy
- **Anticipated Results:** Increased university/industry research partnerships; university/industry service contracts; company expansions and relocations to South Dakota

Proposed Research Park Development Funds

- **Objective:** Capitalize evergreen development fund for each Research Park with capacity for multiple projects
- **Focus:** 1) De-risk projects to leverage private funding and development; 2) ensure ongoing supply of laboratory shell space; and 3) incentivize bioscience company expansion/relocation to South Dakota
- **Uses:** 1) Lease default fund; 2) master lease/shell space carrying costs; and 3) tenant improvement funding
- **Proposed Capital Sources:** 1) Private (through university foundations); 2) Public (from existing sources)

South Dakota's Research Parks foster collaboration and partnerships between research institutions, business, industries, and government – bringing together key partners to shape South Dakota's economic future, create opportunities for people and businesses, and power the innovation that impacts the world.

For more information on South Dakota's research parks and their economic impact, contact:

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