

# Legislative Proposal 2025

## Strengthening Brooklyn Park's BioTech District



### The challenge

Brooklyn Park is Minnesota's sixth-largest city, home to a vibrant and diverse population where over 60 percent of residents identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

Despite its strengths, including a history of innovation and community investment, the City struggles with a modest tax base and has not received the same level of state and federal investment as other similarly sized cities.

**In 2024, the Minnesota Legislature established the BioTech Innovation District, creating opportunities for significant, equitable public investment and tax base growth.**

However, Brooklyn Park needs concrete investment to build out infrastructure, bolster workforce development activities, and more, to make the District a reality.



*Brooklyn Park's 245-acre BioTech District is anticipated to grow over 10,000 jobs and 3,000 housing units.*

### The proposal

The BioTech District presents an exciting, unique opportunity for a collaborative governance structure with a shared vision among private sector partners, government, educational institutions, and other stakeholders.

Securing legislative support for placemaking initiatives will create a vibrant environment that attracts talent and promotes interaction – two ingredients critical for districts to thrive.



#### Expanded TIF flexibility

Allow sufficient time and flexibility to implement impactful, long-term development projects, by allowing a 25-year redevelopment district.



#### Workforce development funding

Invest \$1 million to expand the BrookLynk Workforce Development Program, providing residents with access to high-paying careers and supplying industry with the talent they need.



#### Water infrastructure funding

Allocate \$4.5 million for critical water infrastructure improvements to support development and \$10 million for the construction of a water tower.

### Why it Matters

The BioTech District will address local economic disparities and position Brooklyn Park as a hub for innovation, contributing to regional and statewide economic growth. The District will also bring new shopping, dining, and entertainment experiences for residents.

Brooklyn Park's robust workforce assets, three established colleges, and award-winning training programs make the city an attractive location to develop talent, nurture startups, and create economic opportunities.

# Brooklyn Park is BioTech's future.

Brooklyn Park is a member of Minnesota MedTech 3.0 and home to a growing ecosystem of MedTech companies, many of which are members of Medical Alley.

## Medical Alley members:

*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.*



## Tax base disparities persist.

Historically, Brooklyn Park has not benefitted from significant investment, compared to other similarly sized cities.

This ongoing imbalance and inequity has led to the funding burden for critical regional services falling almost entirely on local residents and businesses.

*The right 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.*

