
News Release

Oct. 14, 2010

Wayne County lands adult stem-cell magnet facility

A magnet facility for adult stem-cell research, manufacturing and commercialization will break ground Oct. 19 in Plymouth Township.

The Michigan Center for Regenerative Medicine (MCRM) will eventually be a 30,000 square foot building housing research and development, manufacturing, and commercialization affiliates of adult stem-cell, regenerative medicine.

Included in the foot print will be 2,600 square feet dedicated to Good Manufacturing Practice / Current Good Tissue Practice facility for human stem cell propagation and stem cell device fabrication, storage and shipping.

“We are creating an environment where people want to do business,” said Wayne County Executive Robert A. Ficano. “Wayne County is committed to making sure that the emerging medical breakthroughs of tomorrow will continue being incubated right here, today.”

Wayne County’s Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE), awarded \$2.2 million in Dept. of Housing and Urban Development funds to the project. The money will be used to do build-out of the facility and prepare it for state-of-the-art operations.

“Landing a world-class facility for adult stem-cell research, development, and manufacturing in Plymouth Township is extraordinary news for the community and for Wayne County,” said Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox.

“The MCRM facility will be an important piece of the regional infrastructure that will attract and keep companies and high tech jobs in southeastern Michigan,” said Jim Richter, a member of MCRM’s board of directors.

The MCRM facility adds to an economic clustering of facilities in Wayne County which, taken together, will provide a one-stop-shop for companies specializing in the development and commercialization of stem cell therapy.

Innovative Bio Therapeutics (IBT), a University of Michigan spin-off, will be the first affiliate in the MCRM facility. IBT develops adult stem cell therapies to treat acute renal failure, end stage renal disease, and congestive heart failure.

“The current world market for replacement organ therapies is in excess of \$350 billion,” said H. David Humes, MD, president and chief science officer of IBT. “The projected US market for regenerative medicine in 2025 is estimated at \$500 billion.”

The ground-breaking for the MCRM is 10 A.M., Tuesday, Oct. 19th at 14875 Galleon Drive, Plymouth Twp Michigan, 48170.

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