



A Better Living.
A Better Life.



NBA WELCOMES OKLAHOMA CITY TO BIG LEAGUE PORTFOLIO

On October 29th, Thunder rolled into Oklahoma City. But this was not the type you might expect. Although certainly accompanied by electricity, this Thunder averaged 6'8" and 228 pounds and dribbled basketballs. Why did the NBA choose Oklahoma City? For the league, like so many other firms choosing to locate in OKC, the reasons were simple.

A diversified economy. Numerous state and local incentive opportunities. A young, talented, available

workforce. Corporate and public partnership and investment. The city's overall quality of place. All of these factors and more attracted the NBA, just as they have in other recent corporate expansion and location decisions.

"The fact that the NBA found Oklahoma City worthy of its own team speaks to many areas of our city's profile, most notably our economy," said Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett. "But it is also a testament to the willingness of civic, business, and government leaders to step up to the plate and work together when an opportunity

presents itself. This is a phenomenon we've seen at work over the past several years in this community, and not just in relation to the NBA."

Oklahoma City joining the world's best-promoted professional sports league helps in other intangible ways as well. As one of only 30 cities sporting a team, being mentioned along with cities like Boston, Chicago and Miami provides benefits to the City's image that any amount of advertising cannot buy. "It's huge for our branding of the city," Cornett said.

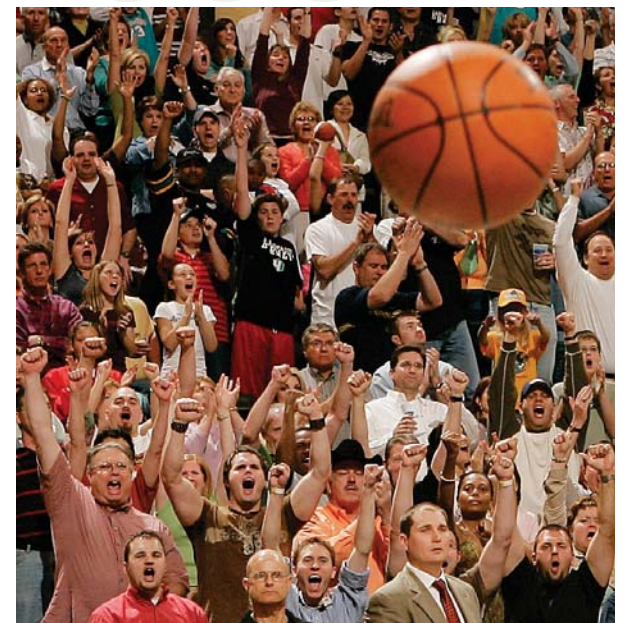
“ The fact that the NBA found Oklahoma City worthy of its own team speaks to many areas of our city's profile, most notably our economy. ”

Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett

to attract and retain high-paying jobs and top industries, the NBA label is one more thing we can point to as we market our state to the rest of the world."

"Ultimately, the NBA being here on a permanent basis proves what we've been saying all along –

Governor Brad Henry agreed. "In addition to providing an immediate economic boost, an NBA franchise will provide long-term benefits for all of Oklahoma by elevating our national profile and enhancing the quality of life here. When we work



our economic diversity and strength is built upon several key industries: logistics, biosciences, aerospace, business services, as well as energy – and that diversity is what has propelled us into an elite class of city," said Roy Williams, President and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber.

With a track record of strong civic and fan support, the country's most recession-resistant economies according to Forbes magazine, and a proven willingness of the citizenry to invest in their own community and quality of life, the decision for the NBA to locate in Oklahoma City was a slam-dunk.

TAC AND TINKER BY THE NUMBERS

- 25 feet - Clear height, floor to truss
- 45 feet - Column to column
- 22.5 feet - Wide, accessible aisles
- 8 inches - Reinforced Portland Cement floor thickness with mineral aggregate finish
- 35 foot-candles - existing lighting, easily upgraded to over 77 foot-candles
- \$55 million – amount of bond issue approved by voters
- \$50 - \$100 million – amount committed for investment in renovations
- \$3.4 billion – annual economic impact generated by Tinker AFB for Oklahoma



The Tinker Aerospace Facility's 3.8 million square feet of the most modern manufacturing & production space on the planet presents private Aero firms with a unique Defense partnering opportunity.

The TAC will host some of the current 76th Maintenance Wing operations, as well as other Department of Defense missions. The facility provides the base with the flexibility to address future depot maintenance

workloads and the jobs that go with them, including work on the C-17 engines, joint strike fighter engines, and core work on the new KC-X tanker. The facility will also allow private firms working on defense-related contracts and projects to work side-by-side with Tinker and military workers and officials to create efficiencies and synergy for all involved.

Oklahoma City Aerospace: Opportunities and Investment Highlight Recent News

TINKER AEROSPACE COMPLEX (TAC), AEROSPACE WORKFORCE BILL RAISE OKC TO NEW HEIGHTS

The most modern US Air Force manufacturing facility in the world. A skilled, qualified and growing workforce pool of more than 38,000 people. An unprecedented opportunity for defense-related contractors to partner on production space alongside their military and private partners. State and local incentive opportunities and a variety of partnership types. All of that and more describe the newest additions to Oklahoma City's aerospace arsenal – the Tinker Aerospace Complex (TAC) and the Aerospace Workforce Bill.

The new Tinker Aerospace Complex, a 3.8 million square-foot production and manufacturing facility, represents a monumental opportunity for private aerospace firms engaged in defense-related activity to work alongside their Air Force and military partners, creating new synergy and efficiencies for companies never before available. In its former life, the plant motored on in a different sort of way as a General Motors production facility directly adjacent to the world-renowned Tinker Air Force Base. Tinker, with 27,000 military and civilian personnel and a \$3.4 billion annual economic impact, remains the state's largest single-site employer. State and local leaders continue to work to fortify Tinker's position both locally and globally.

Thus, when General Motors closed its Oklahoma City Plant in 2006, leaders saw the potential opportunity to use this event as a means of further girding Tinker, as well as providing valuable manufacturing space for local aerospace firms interested in partnering with Tinker or other government entities on defense-related projects. In another example of partnership and collaboration among the metro's leadership, The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber and Air Force officials, along with state and county leaders, collaborated



on a plan to purchase the plant and surrounding acreage.

A \$55 million county bond issue was passed by voters in May, and the Oklahoma Legislature voted to contribute \$10 million to acquire the site. The funds secured the purchase of the facility, which the County owns and now leases to Tinker in a low-cost, long-term lease agreement.

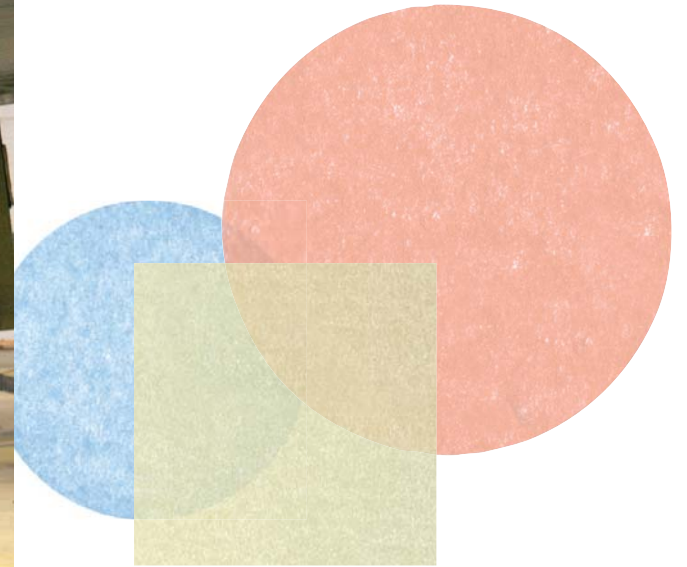
Moreover, the Air Force plans to invest millions of dollars to transform the facility.

"The Air Force greatly appreciates the leadership and generosity of Oklahomans," said Lt. Gen. Loren Reno, former Vice-Commander, Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, Tinker Air Force Base. "For more than five decades you have supported our mission and our people in so many ways."

Ray Vaughn, Oklahoma County Commissioner, also expressed his gratitude to the community. "The renovation and use of the old GM Plant by Tinker is clearly a win-win victory for Tinker and its employees, as well as the citizens of Oklahoma County," said Vaughn. "I commend our taxpayers for their sacrifice and foresight."



A painter at Tinker Air Force Base puts the first coat on a KC-135 Stratotanker engine cowling.



The Tinker Aerospace Complex (TAC) will host some of the current 76th Maintenance Wing operations as well as other Department of Defense missions. Moreover, a substantial portion of the manufacturing space (1.27 million square feet) will be allocated for use by private aerospace companies, allowing for unprecedented benefits involved with working side-by-side with Tinker AFB workers in a state-of-the-art facility.

In addition, it will give Tinker and their partnering companies the flexibility they need to compete for more workload and the contracts and jobs that go with them, including the C-17 engines, joint strike fighter engines, and core work on the new KC-X tanker.

“Oklahoma County enjoys a history of support for Tinker dating back to the Second World War,” Vaughn confirmed. “I am glad that we have been able to sustain that tradition through this project.”

Reno agreed. “This community initiative is yet another example of our long-standing partnership

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Ray Vaughn, Oklahoma County Commissioner

with the state of Oklahoma, Oklahoma County and neighboring communities,” he said. “This facility will improve the overall working environment for Team Tinker. It represents a significant improvement in productivity with benefits for years to come.”

According to Roy Williams, President and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, the Tinker Aerospace Complex has the potential to create thousands of new jobs for Oklahoma residents. “This provides a significant benefit to the many public-private partnerships that have become the hallmark of Tinker’s success,” Williams said.

The addition of the TAC facility helps cap a banner year for Oklahoma City’s efforts in the aerospace sector. Earlier this summer, House Bill 3239, better known as the Aerospace Workforce Bill, was passed by Oklahoma lawmakers to help increase the number of engineers working in Oklahoma. The legislation promises to help the state make bigger strides in the global marketplace, and is based on

studies that show it will create an economic impact of \$129 million and lead to an additional 423 jobs across the state. The bill provides for tax credits, tuition reimbursement credits, and other incentives for state aerospace companies that hire engineers, with extra incentives available for those firms who hire graduates from an Oklahoma university.

“The passage of this bill is an important step forward for Oklahoma,” said Kirk Humphreys, the Chamber’s Vice-Chair of Aerospace. “Talent makes the world go around. This will greatly enhance our ability to attract and retain talented engineers – those with career experience as well as recent graduates who will bring new energy, intellectual capital and creativity to our state.”

The Aerospace Workforce Bill and the new Tinker Aerospace Complex are just two examples of how leaders are continually remaking Oklahoma City into an even better place for a variety of aviation and aerospace operations, including manufacturing, assembly, engineering, logistics, and corporate office locations.



OKC: WHERE VALUE AND COLLABORATION BREED SUCCESS



Robin Roberts Krieger

Executive Vice President of Greater Economic Development, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber

Dear Friends,
We hear so much bad news in the media these days: housing starts, credit availability, new hiring and development seem to be decreasing across the board. However, in stark contrast to other places, Oklahoma City is not only alive, but continuing to prosper.

Being named one of “America’s Most Recession-proof” cities by Forbes magazine earlier this year is great, but it’s just another sign of the continued growth in our economy and the seamless collaboration displayed by our community, civic and business leaders that has attracted firms as diverse as AAA, who recently broke ground on a brand-new 147,000 square-foot customer and financial service facility, and the NBA Thunder, who found our market’s ability to support the team to be an easy call.

Both of these success stories and the many others that have occurred over the past few months are the result of our strong, diversified economy. Industry sectors such as energy, biosciences, logistics and aerospace are driving the growth, our civic and governmental leaders provide companies with numerous advantages to locating and expanding operations here, and our community routinely embraces new opportunities with gusto.

How can your organization benefit from Oklahoma City’s advantages? Give us a call and let us show you how we grow success, one company at a time.

OKLAHOMA RIVER SCENE: LOCATION OFFERS ADVANTAGES TO OLYMPIANS, BUSINESSES

How about a row, a bike ride, or a walk in a corporate park along the Oklahoma River? It’s no secret that Oklahoma City’s riverfront is enjoying newfound strength as part of OKC’s citizen-led renaissance and rise. The Oklahoma River boasts 15 miles of trails, 19 pedestrian bridges and landscaped parks, including a skatepark named for and designed by OKC Metro resident and native Mat Hoffman. It routinely hosts elite rowing, canoe, kayak, and other watersport competitions, attracting competitors and visitors alike from all over the globe. As the New York Times said recently, “The city has become a mecca for elite water sports.” Indeed, the U.S. Olympic committee selected the River as the site of the USA International Rowing World Challenge, a precursor to the Beijing Olympics last October.

In April the river hosted the U.S. Olympic Trials for Canoe and Kayak, and in August the USA Canoe / Kayak National Championship was held in OKC. In September, spectators thrilled to the sights and action of the 2008 World Wakeboard Association Wakeboard World Championship. And in October, as tens of thousands attended the Head of the Oklahoma Regatta, U.S. Rowing, the governing body of the U.S. Olympic and National Rowing teams, announced that Oklahoma City will be home to a new elite-level training center for future Olympians, constructed alongside the

magnificent Chesapeake boathouse and three additional boathouses being built for local college teams (Oklahoma City University, University of Oklahoma, and University of Central Oklahoma).

However, watersport-related building is not all that is flowing along the riverfront. Following the \$54 million-dollar facelift of the river, Dell selected a riverfront location for its new customer service center in 2005. Located in Oklahoma City’s federally designated Empowerment Zone, the site

offered Dell many financial and aesthetic advantages.

The river will also be home to the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum (AICCM) complex, now under construction. The site was a natural choice for the groundbreaking Center due to its natural parkland opportunities as well as other advantages associated with the use of a former Brownfield site.

Another example of partnership among private & corporate citizens and city government, the Oklahoma River not only increases the quality of life for the city’s residents, but provides another tourist attraction, site selection and development opportunity for companies looking to take advantage of a low-cost business environment, picturesque scenery and park areas, and a unique set of circumstances and incentives that can benefit almost any organization.



The award-winning design of the Chesapeake Boathouse anchors Oklahoma City’s new “Boathouse Row.”

CORE TO SHORE: MOVING HIGHWAYS TO MAKE MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY

It's not often that a large section of interstate freeway gets completely relocated to a new area, and even less often that a city has the opportunity to physically expand its downtown and urban core. However, that's exactly

what is happening in Oklahoma City due to the relocation of I-40. The realignment of the highway will add more than 1,000 acres to downtown, opening up numerous development possibilities and creating room for additional housing, businesses and facilities for entertainment and recreation.

The project will make room for a new tree-lined, retail- and pedestrian-friendly boulevard into downtown Oklahoma City in place of the current Interstate. This removal, relocation and construction will offer significant concurrent and subsequent opportunities for development, especially to the area between downtown (the "core") and the Oklahoma River (the "shore"). Plans for the reclaimed space call for mixed-use neighborhoods and better access for businesses – especially retailers – for the markets they serve.

The Core to Shore plan encompasses a 1,375-acre area. Boundaries include the area from Reno Ave. to The Oklahoma River and from Western Ave. to Interstate 235.

Public elements will provide a catalyst for private development. These include \$163 million in public funds already allocated for a three-quarter mile-long boulevard, a 30+ acre "Festival Park," new libraries, schools, a convention center, and a skyward-reaching, one-of-a-kind pedestrian bridge over the relocated interstate. Inspired by the Oklahoma state bird, the Scissortail Flycatcher, the Skydancer bridge will become a new icon for Oklahoma City. Included in the \$163 million is a one-cent sales tax, overwhelmingly approved by the voters, to fund \$100 million worth of

improvements to the city's arena, the Ford Center, which is situated directly on the new boulevard.



Artists' renditions of the Core to Shore area emphasize the promise of Downtown's impending expansion.

The overall effect will be a gateway into downtown Oklahoma City. Major elements of the plan include public transportation, office buildings, downtown housing, retail, the grand Festival Park and expanded convention and hotel facilities.

Moving the highway will be only one of several initiatives undertaken by Oklahoma City to expand its downtown. From railroad relocation to the revitalization of downtown infrastructure, Oklahoma City seizes opportunities to become a better community.

Additionally, the recent transformation of the Oklahoma River created a first-class aquatic sporting destination (see previous page), attracting such events as the 2007 USA Rowing World Challenge, and the 2008 U.S. Canoe/Kayak Olympic Trials. Even more development is planned along Oklahoma City's sparkling waterway, including U.S. Rowing's elite training center, and the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum.

Construction of the boulevard is targeted to begin in 2012, after the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) completes construction on the realignment of Interstate 40. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation has already started re-routing the existing Interstate 40 freeway.

This monumental plan not only presents an opportunity for Oklahoma City to continue its progressivity and remarkable downtown revitalization, but also for numerous sites and development possibilities for private companies looking to take advantage of one of the most unique urban reclamation projects in history.

ACCOLADES, AAA HIGHLIGHT OKC'S SIZZLING SUMMER



This summer, Oklahoma City was at the center of several exciting employment proclamations, most notably that of a new AAA customer services center. The automotive, insurance, travel and financial services company chose Oklahoma City over sites in 10 other states due to the welcoming community, skilled workforce and a vital economy, according to Paula Downey, president of AAA Northern California, Nevada and Utah. "We have found all of that, and more, in Oklahoma City," she said.

Neal Kruger, President and CEO of AAA Oklahoma, agreed. "This site selection... is good news for the

members of participating AAA clubs who stand to benefit from Oklahoma's motivated work force, friendly business environment and low cost of operation."

Work on the 147,000-square-foot building will provide from 150 to 200 construction-related hires in addition to more than 825 permanent jobs in insurance-related and member services positions. "These will be above-average jobs with good benefits," said Mayor Mick Cornett.

According to Roy Williams, President and CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, capturing the facility was a big victory for Oklahoma

City. "It has verified what we have been telling everybody for the past several years, that companies now are basing their corporate location and relocation decisions based on access to talent. It was talent and labor availability that drew them here."

Other new-to-market and existing companies recently announcing job expansions include Claimetrics (1000 jobs), Paycom (725 jobs), SIMCO Manufacturing (145 jobs), Associated Wholesale Grocers (130 jobs), Terex Roadbuilding (50 jobs), and The Hartford. Gunnar Hood, General Manager for the Hartford's Oklahoma

AAA will employ over 825 people at its new 147,000 square-foot facility.

City operations, cited a number of factors to explain the international award-winning customer service center's addition of 200 new jobs.

"Oklahoma City is a great place for us," said Hood. "The quality of the workforce, quality of life, and low cost of doing business all combine to make this a win-win for everyone."

AMERICA'S MOST RECESSION-PROOF CITY

Oklahoma City was recently ranked as America's Most Recession-Proof City by Forbes due to one of the strongest housing markets in the country and strong growth in agriculture, energy and manufacturing.

April 29, 2008 - Forbes Magazine

OKLAHOMA CITY AMONG BEST PERFORMING CITIES - 2008

Oklahoma City moved up a whopping 58 spots to No. 50 in the Milken Institute's recently-released Best Performing Cities of 2008 list. Consequently, Oklahoma City also made the Institute's list of cities making the biggest gains. The Milken Institute looks at several factors to determine what cities are the best at creating and sustaining jobs, including job growth, wages, and high-tech GDP.

September 10, 2008 - The Milken Institute

OK 1ST IN HOME VALUE GAINS

Oklahoma is No. 1 in home value gains - at a time when homeowners in most of the rest of the country are wondering what hit their equity.

August 27, 2008 - The Oklahoman

ONE OF NATION'S BEST PLACES TO RAISE A FAMILY

Oklahoma City was recently ranked # 28 of the 100 Best Places to Raise a Family by the Today Show. Cities were judged on crime rates, school quality, healthcare, the arts, housing costs, average commute times and divorce rates.

May 20, 2008 - Today Show

4TH BEST CITY FOR COMMUTERS

Oklahoma City placed 4th on the Forbes.com list for Best Cities for Commuters. Forbes.com looked at the 75 largest metro areas in the U.S. and evaluated them based on traffic delays, travel

times and how efficiently commuters use existing infrastructure.

April 24, 2008 - Forbes Magazine

5TH LOWEST BUSINESS COSTS IN U.S.

Oklahoma City has the 5th lowest business costs in the U.S. and the 11th lowest business costs in the world according to a KPMG Competitive Alternatives advisory.

2008 - www.

CompetitiveAlternatives.com

7TH CLEANEST CITY IN AMERICA

Oklahoma City ranked 7th in Forbes.com's America's 10 Cleanest Cities list. Forbes used air and water quality, among other factors, for ratings.

March 18, 2008 - Forbes Magazine

COUNTRY'S MOST AFFORDABLE HOUSING MARKET

Oklahoma City is the number 1 most affordable housing market

of the 50 largest metropolitan areas in America.

March 10, 2008 - Bizjournals.com

NATION'S 4TH LEAST STRESSFUL CITY

Oklahoma City ranked 4th in a review of the least stressful cities in America. The study examined air quality, sunshine, crime, unemployment and commute time, among other factors.

February 11, 2008 - Bizjournals.com

com

19TH BEST CITY FOR JOBS

Forbes used five equally weighted data points to rank cities: the state's unemployment rate, job growth, income growth, median household income and cost of living.

January 10, 2008 - Forbes

Magazine

4TH MOST ENTREPRENEURIAL

Oklahoma's growing rate of entrepreneurship in 2006 boosted the state to fourth in the country, an annual survey of startup businesses recently revealed. According to the Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurial Activity, Oklahoma had about 430 entrepreneur startups per 100,000 residents in 2006.

June 19, 2007 - The Journal Record

LOWEST TAX BURDEN OF ALL STATES

According to the Commerce Department Bureau of Economic Affairs, Oklahoma has the lowest tax burden of any state, including the District of Columbia. Oklahoma's tax burden was 27.8% versus Connecticut at the top with 38.3%.

June 11, 2007 - The Wall Street Journal

BIO INDUSTRY HAS HEALTHY IMPACT ON OKLAHOMA CITY

Living up to its ever-expanding reputation as an integral part of Oklahoma City's economy along with tremendous growth potential for the future is no easy task. But for the City and state bioscience industry, it's just been another lively day in the doctor's office for this dynamic and growing sector.

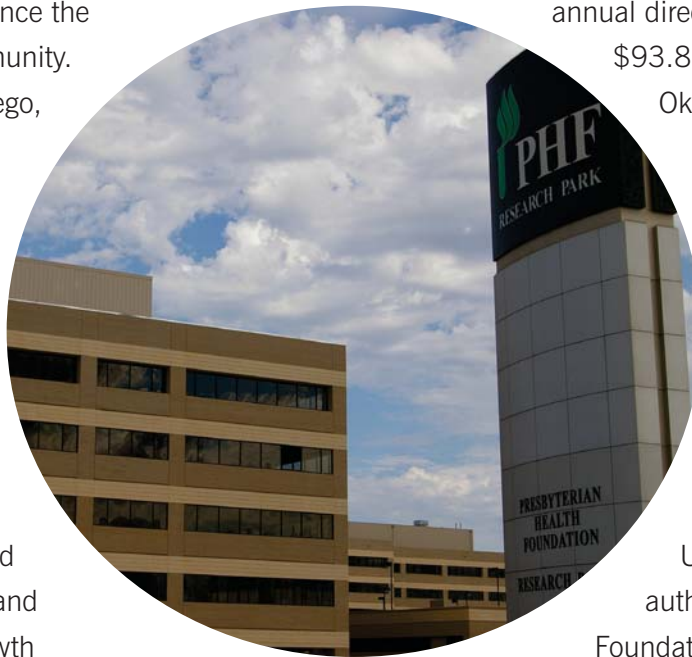
Earlier this year, the Oklahoma Bioscience Association was formed to provide a focal point and driver to advance the state's bioscience community. This summer in San Diego, Oklahoma companies gathered under the OKBio banner for the first time at the International Bioscience Convention.

"This is the largest group we have organized for the BIO convention and represents both the growth of the industry in our state and the broader coalition that participating in this meeting has developed," said Greater Oklahoma City Chamber President and CEO Roy Williams.

Oklahoma City is also unique in that much of the bioscience-related research, manufacturing, and other activity in the city is clustered downtown in one central location. The Presbyterian Health Foundation Research Park, the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC), and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF) all share common grounds, allowing synergies to exist in matters critical to start-ups such as the administration of intellectual property rights and accessing financial capital and government grants.

In addition, as start-ups mature, they can receive counsel regarding best management and marketing practices from key agencies and other entities such as OCAST (Oklahoma Center for Advancement of Science & Technology) and i2E (Turning Innovations into Enterprise).

In fact, a recent study of the Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF) called that organization a "major Oklahoma City asset" that has an annual direct economic impact of \$93.8 million on the Greater Oklahoma City region.



"Measuring the impact of a dynamic entity like the PHF is about far more than economics," said Larkin Warner, Professor Emeritus of Oklahoma State University and one of the authors of the study. "The Foundation and its Research

Park are also making a lasting civic, cultural and quality of life impact not only on Oklahoma City, but throughout the world." The study also pointed out the link between the success of the PHF and its aforementioned neighbors.

With an emerging industry association, a low-cost, supportive research and business environment, a wealth of world-class and affordable wet- and dry- lab space, as well as the ability to provide seed and bridge funding to promising ideas, technologies and companies, Oklahoma City continues to boast a strong and burgeoning presence in the biotech world.

NO LIMITS FOR SKYLINE IN OKC

Dear Friends,
Earlier this year, we unveiled designs for our new 54-story corporate headquarters in downtown Oklahoma City. While some might ask, "Why Oklahoma City?" for us, the reasons are simple.



Larry Nichols
Devon Energy Corp.

Not only have we grown here, but we have prospered. Since opening our first office downtown in 1971, we have added more than 1,300 employees. We expect to have more than 1,500 within four years. Oklahoma City has always supplied a vigorous workforce that

has enabled us to build a strong company right along with the growth and expansion of our city's economy.



The 925-foot Devon Tower will be one of the tallest buildings west of the Mississippi.

Locating in Oklahoma City is an easy, smart decision.

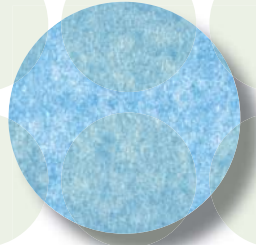
The advantages are numerous: a talented, motivated, growing workforce; a low-cost, supportive business environment; and leadership that is used to working together to get big things accomplished. We are in the midst of creating a new mold that says Oklahoma City is a growing, dynamic, exciting place to be. Come join us as we continue to advance in one of the most progressive, forward-thinking cities in the world, and see how our success can grow yours.



**A Better Living.
A Better Life.**



**PROGRESS
PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY**



A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY PARTNERSHIP

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