



EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:00 AM CT ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

TMC³ Founding Institutions Unveil Master Plan for Life Sciences Research Campus

Elkus Manfredi Architects, Transwestern, and Vaughn Construction will bring TMC³ to life with amenity-rich inspired design and unprecedented connectivity for collaborative biomedical research hub

HOUSTON, TX – TMC³ founding institutions, Texas Medical Center (TMC), Baylor College of Medicine, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, announced that [Elkus Manfredi Architects](#), [Transwestern](#), and [Vaughn Construction](#) will serve as the architectural and development team to execute the physical manifestation for the game-changing 37-acre TMC³ translational research campus.

Announced in April 2018 at a press conference led by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and the leadership of the five founding TMC member institutions, TMC³ will become the first-ever collaborative health care nexus to bridge the geographic gap between TMC's existing clinical and research campuses and establish Houston as the *Third Coast* for life sciences.

“Texas Medical Center is eager to move forward with a bold, imaginative and dynamic new design vision for the TMC³ Master Plan,” emphasized TMC CEO & President Bill McKeon. He added, “With the combined talents of Elkus Manfredi Architects, Transwestern, and Vaughn Construction on-board, I couldn't be more confident that this dream team will flawlessly execute the totality of the project's vision and fulfill its mission to bring together leading researchers and top-tiered expertise from the private sector to create the number one biotechnology and bioscience innovation center in the entire world.”

The master plan will undergo critical updates in design, form, and function that will combine collaborative research facilities with a mix of uses – retail, residential, hotel and conference center, as well as abundant green space – in order to cultivate a true “live, work, play” ecosystem. As such, TMC³ will better engage the public and establish the campus as a civic destination that is accessible, inclusive, and vibrant.

“If you think about great academic institutions, it's the outdoor space that defines their campuses because that's what brings people together,” said Elkus Manfredi Architects CEO and Founding Principal, David Manfredi. He added, “Our idea was to expand on the DNA design concept and create a series of spaces that would elongate the strand all the way north to the historic core of the Texas Medical Center and south to the new development by UTHealth and MD Anderson in order to create more opportunity for connections and collisions. We're implementing the connective tissue between all these places and establishing opportunities for unplanned interactions. Science, technology, medicine, discovery and innovation are all about making connections, and we are building a space for institutions, industry and startups to interact.”

Elkus Manfredi Architects has a proven track record in the medical innovation space, including *the original Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard and The Stanley Building* at the Broad Institute in Cambridge, MA and the *New York Genome Center*, among many others. The firm will work on the project in tandem with Houston-based Transwestern Development, which will serve as fee developer for the site, and Vaughn Construction, an industry leader in commercial construction for over 30 years. Each of the five founding TMC³ partner institutions heralded the updated campus design elements, which include individual lab buildings in addition to ground floor mixed uses in each building that will actively engage the Houston community.

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The former centralized helix-shaped facility will be transposed with an elongated *DNA necklace* in the form of a green space promenade that cuts vertically across the entirety of the campus while being interlaced horizontally by a walkable – and drivable – urban street grid. The DNA strand will not only give TMC³ an instantly recognizable brand identity, it will also link a series of open green spaces designed to attract and retain top talent that is slated to become an attraction for the entire city. Each space can serve a different need for wide-ranging demographics, including one created for a park-like setting, another for outdoor activities, and a third as an amphitheatre.

“We want to create spaces that attract talent. You can attract talent with great colleagues, research and facilities, but if you don’t have a great social environment for people to live, learn, and play, people move on,” continued David Manfredi. He added, “We are creating a place where people will want to be because they’re constantly stimulated – whether it’s breakfast at the local coffee shop, or a volleyball league in the afternoon, or working in a central lab and the person next to them is doing something intersects with their own research.”

An updated street level amenity plan includes first floor retail spaces at each of the DNA helix promenade fixtures’ adjoining buildings that will house the founding institutions’ dedicated facilities. Parking will be housed underground to optimize the street level space for walkability, amenities, and communal interactions.

Baylor College of Medicine will expand its research and education facilities within the TMC³ campus. Additionally, Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center will increase its footprint on the McNair Campus with the second tower of the hospital to occupy TMC³’s eastern edge.

“The selection of a development team is an important milestone for the TMC³ project,” said Paul Klotman, M.D., President, CEO and Executive Dean of Baylor College of Medicine. “The project itself is a huge step in developing the biotech industry in Houston. At Baylor, we look forward to working closely with TMC leaders, as well as those of the other anchor institutions, in making this project a reality.”

Texas A&M Health Science Center research building will be located on the north end between TMC³ Hotel and Conference Center and Baylor College of Medicine’s research building. “TMC³ – as first envisioned by Gov. Greg Abbott – will keep Houston and Texas on the leading edge of medical research,” said John Sharp, Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System. “Texas Aggies can be proud that our Health Science Center, led by Carrie L. Byington, M.D., is at the forefront of this game-changing research institution.”

MD Anderson and UTHealth will each develop new research facilities on the south end of the campus, and both will connect to the expanded University of Texas Research Park that is directly to the south of the campus. A skybridge will be constructed to connect the UT Research Park with the TMC³ Campus.

“Our collective effort to select this world-class development team is an example of the power of collaboration, which is the point of this entire project,” said Peter WT Pisters, M.D., President, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. “The newly redesigned project will optimize our ability to partner together and with industry to truly impact life sciences and health care – now and in the future.”

“This critical step forward in the development of the TMC³ campus is a testament to the vision of Gov. Greg Abbott and the University of Texas System Board of Regents, and to the shared commitment of all of our member institutions,” said Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D., UTHealth President. “The campus, and its underlying partnerships, will put the City of Houston and the State of Texas at the forefront of discovery and medical breakthroughs.”

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The area's new main communal building at the center of the TMC³ Campus will now take the form of a bustling nerve center called *TMC³ Collaborative*. The ground floor of the building will boast an open central atrium used for the gathering of researchers to share transformational projects alongside a diverse mix of food and beverage concepts. The upper floors will house shared collaborative institutional research space and industry partner facilities. The north end of the reconfigured district will house the previously announced Texas Medical Center Hotel and Conference Center, along with a residential tower on the helix promenade.

“When TMC³ opens in 2022, Texas Medical Center will officially plant a tangible flag that signals its arrival as the Third Coast for life sciences for the foreseeable future,” McKeon added.

About Texas Medical Center

Texas Medical Center (TMC)—the largest medical city in the world—is at the forefront of advancing life sciences. Home to the brightest minds in medicine, TMC nurtures cross-institutional collaboration, creativity, and innovation among its 106,000-plus employees. With a campus of more than 50 million square feet, TMC annually hosts 10 million patients, performs over 180,000 surgeries, conducts over 750,000 ER visits, performs close to 14,000 heart surgeries, and delivers over 25,000 babies. Beyond patient care, TMC is pushing the boundaries of clinical research across its extensive network of partner institutions on a daily basis, pioneering effective health policy solutions to address the complex health care issues of today, and cultivating cutting-edge digital health applications and medical devices. For more information, please visit www.tmc.edu.

About Baylor College of Medicine

[Baylor College of Medicine](#) in Houston is recognized as a premier academic health sciences center and is known for excellence in education, research and patient care. It is the only private medical school in the greater southwest and is ranked 22nd among medical schools for research and 4th for primary care by *U.S. News & World Report*. Baylor is listed 20th among all U.S. medical schools for National Institutes of Health funding and number one in Texas. Located in the Texas Medical Center, Baylor has affiliations with seven teaching hospitals and jointly owns and operates Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, part of CHI St. Luke's Health. Currently, Baylor trains more than 3,000 medical, graduate, nurse anesthesia, physician assistant and orthotics students, as well as residents and post-doctoral fellows. Follow Baylor College of Medicine on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About The Texas A&M University System

The Texas A&M University System is one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation, with a budget of \$4.7 billion. Through a statewide network of 11 universities and 7 state agencies, the Texas A&M system educates more than 152,000 students and makes more than 22 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year. System-wide, research and development expenditures exceeded \$972 million in FY 2016 and helped drive the state's economy.

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About UTHealth

Established in 1972 by The University of Texas System Board of Regents, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) is Houston's Health University and Texas' resource for health care education, innovation, scientific discovery and excellence in patient care. The most comprehensive academic health center in the UT System and the U.S. Gulf Coast region, UTHealth is home to Jane and Robert Cizik School of Nursing, John P. and Kathrine G. McGovern Medical School, and schools of biomedical informatics, biomedical sciences, dentistry, and public health. UTHealth includes the UTHealth Harris County Psychiatric Center, as well as the growing clinical practices UT Physicians, UT Dentists, and UT Health Services. The university's primary teaching hospitals are Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, and Harris Health Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital. For more information, visit www.uth.edu.

About MD Anderson

[The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#) in Houston ranks as one of the world's most respected centers focused on cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. The institution's sole mission is to end cancer for patients and their families around the world. MD Anderson is one of only 49 comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). MD Anderson is ranked No.1 for cancer care in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals" survey. It has ranked as one of the nation's top two hospitals for cancer care since the survey began in 1990 and has ranked first 13 times in the last 16 years. MD Anderson receives a cancer center support grant from the NCI of the National Institutes of Health (P30 CA016672).

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