

**CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE** 

615 City Park Avenue New Orleans, LA 70119 (504) 762-3000 FAX: (504) 361-6697 www.dcc.edu

August 12, 2022

City of New Orleans 1300 Perdido Street New Orleans, LA 70112

Re: Letter of Support for the BioDistrict New Orleans

Honorable Members of the City Council of New Orleans,

As the Chancellor of Delgado Community College, it is with great pleasure that I support the BioDistrict New Orleans' request for economic development district financing. With a clear commitment to growing the biosciences sector of the New Orleans economy through equitably transforming our region into a national leader for health research and treatment, the benefits to Delgado and our region are undeniable.

Both the BioDistrict New Orleans and Delgado have a shared commitment to prepare students of varied backgrounds to meet the healthcare needs of our diverse community. Each year, DCC produces 1,200 nursing and allied health professionals. Our graduates are renowned for their excellent patient care. And as a native New Orleanian, it is my fervent passion to ensure that the talent we produce stays right here in our great city. I love nothing more than to see our graduates thrive right here in New Orleans. And with a burgeoning bioscience sector right in our backyard, our students will be poised to do just that.

With recent investments into state-of-the-art facilities like the University Medical Center, VA Hospital and our very own \$38.6 million building that will house the Charity School of Nursing and the Division of Allied Health currently under construction, New Orleans is primed to continue that momentum. Now is the time.

The BioDistrict's holistic approach to investing in our students while also creating a local economy where they can thrive upon entering the workforce is one of the many reasons this initiative receives my full and unwavering support.

We look forward to the direct and lasting impact the BioDistrict New Orleans will have on our institution, specifically through New Orleans Works (NOW), a public/private initiative that generates

employer-focused workforce development solutions and offers low-skilled adults the opportunity for career advancement.

We are at the intersection of a once in a generation opportunity to transform not only our city, but our region. It is time for New Orleans to take the lead and strategically invest in ourselves and our future.

Thank you in advance for supporting the investment into the future of New Orleans.

Sincerely,

Larissa Littleton-Steib, Ph.D., Chancellor

Delgado Community College