

## 1. BioDistrict Update



- » The current BioDistrict Board of Commissioners and NOLABA Board of Directors have approved a plan between the Boards to implement a transition process for the BioDistrict that will focus on business development and workforce development, along with identifying long term sustainable funding and a governance structure.
- » NOLABA is working with the BioDistrict Board to secure preliminary transition funding.

## 2. Launch of PowerMoves.NOLA



- » PowerMoves.NOLA is an outgrowth of ProsperityNOLA and is an initiative led by the New Orleans Start Up Fund geared towards increasing the number of venture-backed minority founded companies, both locally and nationally. Announced in March, the program will officially launch in conjunction with the 2014 ESSENCE Festival™ presented by Coca-Cola® during July 4th weekend.
- » Activities will showcase and support talented minority entrepreneurs and provide early-stage minority entrepreneurs with the access to capital, advisors, and support they need to be successful.

## 3. Formulation of Anchor Institution Strategy



- » Following on the success of the Anchor Institution Boot Camp in January, representatives from the NOLABA Board of Directors and leadership team, the BioDistrict Board of Commissioners and the City of New Orleans traveled to Cleveland, OH to meet with leaders of the city's University Circle economic development initiative. The trip allowed members of the New Orleans delegation to better understand how local education, business, and community leaders worked collaboratively to implement an anchor institution strategy focused on hiring and procuring locally, which led to the nationally recognized revitalization of the University Circle area.

## 4. High School Career Technical Education (CTE) Program



- » NOLABA is working with Educate Now! and GNO, Inc. to develop a pilot program with four Orleans Parish high schools for Career Tech Education (CTE). The group will be working with these high schools, helping them connect to employers and training in three focus areas: Skilled Crafts, Healthcare and Digital Media.

### WORK STRANDS



Coordinate & Collaborate



Invest to Compete



Workforce



Entrep & Sm. Biz



Equity



Re-Brand New Orleans



Think Internationally

### INDUSTRY CLUSTERS



Advanced Manufacturing



BioInnovation & Health



Creative Digital Media



Sustainable Industries



Transport Trade Logistics

## 5. Industry Councils Actively Engage in 2014 Priorities



Eleven working groups across all five clusters have met and identified specific work streams, as highlighted below:

### **Transportation Trade & Logistics:**

- » NOLABA is working with the Tulane Energy Institute and the Port of New Orleans to formulate an action strategy focused on expanding import traffic related to the energy boom and identifying opportunities for growing the value-added manufacturing landscape.

### **BioInnovation & Health Services:**

- » NOLABA is actively working with the BioInnovation Center to organize and plan access to capital related events at this year's Innovation Louisiana conference in November. Activities will focus on attracting financial / strategic institutions that are capable of investing and partnering with growth companies within the BioInnovation and Health Services cluster.
- » Delgado Community College's Laboratory Technician Program was recently approved by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors. NOLABA provided a letter of support for this new program, which will be the first of its kind in Louisiana, and one of only three such programs in the United States. Designed to train and develop "placement ready" laboratory professionals, the curriculum directly addresses workforce readiness - one of the key issues affecting New Orleans' healthcare community.

### **Creative Digital Media:**

- » NOLABA is leading a small working group seeking to identify specific funding challenges facing individual and project-based content creators in the film industry.
- » NOLABA is partnering with the Cowen Institute and GE Capital to design a survey that will be used to identify K-12 curricula focused on building skills for, and enhancing exposure to, the broader creative digital media cluster landscape.
- » NOLABA actively promoted and supported GE Capital's Technology Stage at April's French Quarter Fest, aimed at promoting the city's strong momentum in growing its technology base.

### **Sustainable Industries:**

- » NOLABA and GNO, Inc. have launched an aggressive corporate outreach strategy, conducting multiple in-person business retention and expansion visits with companies across the Sustainable Industries cluster. The meetings will help identify business and cluster-specific challenges that can be addressed through economic development strategies.
- » NOLABA and GNO, Inc. are currently working with a local solar company and Delgado Community College to determine the feasibility of creating a new advanced solar training program at Delgado Community College.

### **Advanced Manufacturing:**

- » NOLABA presented to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors in support of Delgado Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Center for Workforce Excellence. Delgado Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Center for Workforce Excellence is a specialized curriculum that provides students with innovative technical skills training across a variety of industry disciplines (i.e., automated machinery, facility maintenance, pipe-fitting, welding) by complimenting classroom learning with hands-on experience at state-of-the-art training facilities.
- » The program was unanimously approved by the Board is scheduled to be launched in Fall 2015.