

Press release

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New tender for Medical Business Park by Amsterdam UMC New development set to bolster the life sciences and health sector (LSH) in the Amsterdam Area

On behalf of Amsterdam UMC, the City of Amsterdam is issuing a tender for developing a part of the Medical Business Park (MBP) in Amsterdam Zuidoost. The MBP is a medical business park on the grounds of the Amsterdam UMC. The tender is regarding a lot within the park on which a minimum of 7,000 and a maximum of 7,528 square metres gross floor area is to be developed for businesses and other organisations in the field of medical services. The development will include laboratories and service facilities with associated offices. They will be located at the Medical Business Park's lot E. In total, there are 100,000 square metres available for construction.

The Amsterdam Area's international standing

The relocation of the European Medicines Agency to Amsterdam has provided an important impetus for the Amsterdam Area's standing as an international life sciences and health hub. The further development of the Medical Business Park is a next step towards strengthening this position. The potential for intensive cooperation with relevant parties within the sector is increasingly important for life sciences and health businesses, and it's a significant factor for them when choosing a business location or opting to expand current activities.

The presence of more than 300 LSH businesses and an extensive talent pool in the Amsterdam Area is a significant factor, but the region must ensure that it can offer the necessary facilities to simplify the exchange of knowledge and share research costs. Developing a building that offers additional lab capacity is in line with the City of Amsterdam's policy of strengthening the Amsterdam Area's standing as a hub of innovation and research for the life sciences and health sector. The labs of Amsterdam UMC and the Vrije Universiteit that are located at Zuidas are being expanded and modernised too.

Development of the Medical Business Park

The tender relating to lot E is the first in a series. In total, there are 100,000 square metres available for construction in the Medical Business Park. The planned expansion of lab capacity is a reaction to increased demand for high-quality lab space. Current market developments require researchers to expand and accelerate their research while reducing development costs. As a result, the use of shared research facilities is increasing. For scientists, a lab centre is attractive as a location for sharing their research with more parties and making it commercially viable.

The future laboratories will need to comply with high classification requirements and must be equipped for housing innovative research facilities. They must also offer scope for simultaneous use by several parties. Developers will also need to take scientific and economic cooperation with Amsterdam UMC and other academic institutions into account.

Emile Spek, Amsterdam UMC's director of real estate, says: "The continuous development of the Medical Business Park is entirely in line with our long-term strategy of improving the quality of healthcare, for example by linking Amsterdam UMC's international research to innovative players in the LSH sector."

Amsterdam UMC Imaging Center

Expanding the capacities in Amsterdam Zuidoost, where the Amsterdam Skills Centre opened earlier this year too, means that high-quality research facilities are coming within reach of startups and newcomers. This increases the chances of scientific and commercial breakthroughs and offers startups more possibilities to scale up and become full-grown businesses.

Amsterdam UMC has already been involved in a comparable initiative as it's setting up the Amsterdam UMC Imaging Center in close cooperation with commercial partners. On its opening on 31 October this year, the Center is expected to halve waiting times for medical scans.

Note for the editor / not for publication

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