



## **FACILITIES WORKING GROUP (FWG) PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS**

### *Building for Medical Science and Cures*

#### **Goal of Public Information Meetings**

*The goal of each meeting is to (1) educate stakeholders about CIRM's Mission and Values as they relate to facilities investments, (2) identify capital funding needs for stem cell research in California, and (3) define CIRM's requirements for highly successful proposals in the upcoming Facilities RFA.*

- A. Session 1: Invitation to potential applicants to respond to CIRM mission, vision and strategic principles and address the scientific need for additional space at their institution. (Limited to 10 minutes per speaker.)**
- B. Session 2: Review of Topics and Opportunity for Public Comment on Technical Aspects of the Request for Applications for Major Facilities.**

#### **Questions for discussion:**

1. How can CIRM best distribute its facilities development funds to meet its objectives of scientific research leading to cures?
2. What are the scientific program requirements (criteria) for future stem cell research and how do they translate into building requirements?
  - a. Should the FWG take into account the current level of CIRM funded PIs at each institution as a measure of need?
  - b. How should the FWG project future needs for space at each institution?
  - c. How should the above information be used to determine the level of facilities funding to each institution?
3. What are institutional program requirements and how do they translate into building requirements?

4. What are CIRM's requirements for success, and how could applicants respond to these requirements?

**Urgency**—How have applicants prepared to move quickly in providing the physical facilities that will allow hESC research to move forward and expand? How important is this as a criterion in evaluating proposals? What might be some measurements that CIRM should consider?

**Innovation**—How does the applicant's proposal respond to the broad concepts of innovation in design and functionality? What are the elements of the proposal that should be considered "best practices?" Should CIRM expand its influence in funding new facilities by requiring other applicants to achieve similar results as the best practice leaders?

**Excellence**—What is excellence in terms of facilities development? How will the facility respond to user needs? How should a facility respond to and respect the environment in which it exists? Is form more important than function? How are costs apportioned to meet design goals versus program or user goals and is that proportion reasonable?

**Functionality**—How should CIRM determine what is a good value for its investment in facilities? Should the funding be directed to expand existing well-developed research centers or should it promote and nurture the expansion of smaller up-and-coming programs, or both? How should CIRM determine the proportion of funds to be devoted to each?

**Leverage**—How should the CIRM investment prompt other investments that are aligned with CIRM goals in pursuit of medical research and cures? How will CIRM account for leverage funding in assessing facilities funding request?

**Accountability**—How should CIRM ensure that applicants are compliant with all the requirements of Proposition 71 and other laws governing facilities construction? What resources and mechanisms need to be in place to gather information that will ensure CIRM funding provided by the California taxpayers is spent wisely and in accordance with expectations?

**Collaboration**—To what extent should internal and external collaborations be considered in the evaluation of new facilities? How should the effectiveness of collaboration be measured?