

# A South Side Hub for Job Access and Growth in Healthcare Fields

A Joint Project of the University of Chicago,  
UChicago Medicine and City Colleges of Chicago

Community Meeting Hosted by Ald. Dowell  
February 28, 2024



# The Partnership

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## **CITY COLLEGES**<sup>®</sup> OF CHICAGO

City Colleges of Chicago's vision is to be recognized as the city's most accessible higher education engine of socioeconomic mobility and racial equity – empowering all Chicagoans to take part in building a stronger and more just city.

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## **MALCOLM X COLLEGE** CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO

Malcolm X College is the Center of Excellence for Healthcare Education and offers a variety of health sciences programs that prepare students to pursue a four-year degree or advance in a career.

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The University of Chicago Medicine, with a history dating to 1927, is a not-for-profit academic medical health system based on the campus of the University of Chicago in Hyde Park, and with hospitals, outpatient clinics and physician practices throughout Chicago and its suburbs.

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For more than 125 years, the University of Chicago has forged its own path. This has led to new schools of thought and a transformative education for students, and laid the groundwork for breakthroughs across the sciences, medicine, economics, law, business, history, culture, the arts, and humanistic inquiry.

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# Expansion of a Strong, Existing Partnership

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Joint project builds on formal **Memorandum of Understanding** between the University of Chicago and City Colleges of Chicago

UChicago Medicine and Malcolm X College developed several new career pathway and pipeline programs through **Chicagoland Healthcare Workforce Collaborative**

Annually, UChicago Medicine:

- **Hires ~120 Malcolm X graduates**
- **Hosts ~65 Malcolm X students** through internships, practicums, and apprenticeships
- **Engages with 100+ Malcolm X students** through career development events

# Project Overview: An Education to Career Pipeline in Growing, Accessible Healthcare Fields

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The proposed joint project in Washington Park would:

- **Create new jobs**
- **Expand access to affordable higher education**
- **Establish healthcare career pathways for South Side residents**
- **Improve lab test efficiency, capacity, and capabilities to better serve South Side residents**
- **Activate vacant land and bring new vibrancy to a critical corridor for the community**

The project would bring two distinct, but connected, elements to Washington Park:

- **Malcolm X College Learning Center** with allied health programs
- **UChicago Medicine Clinical Labs**

Plus, an expansion of a full nursing education pathway housed at Kennedy-King College in Englewood

# The Site: Current Conditions



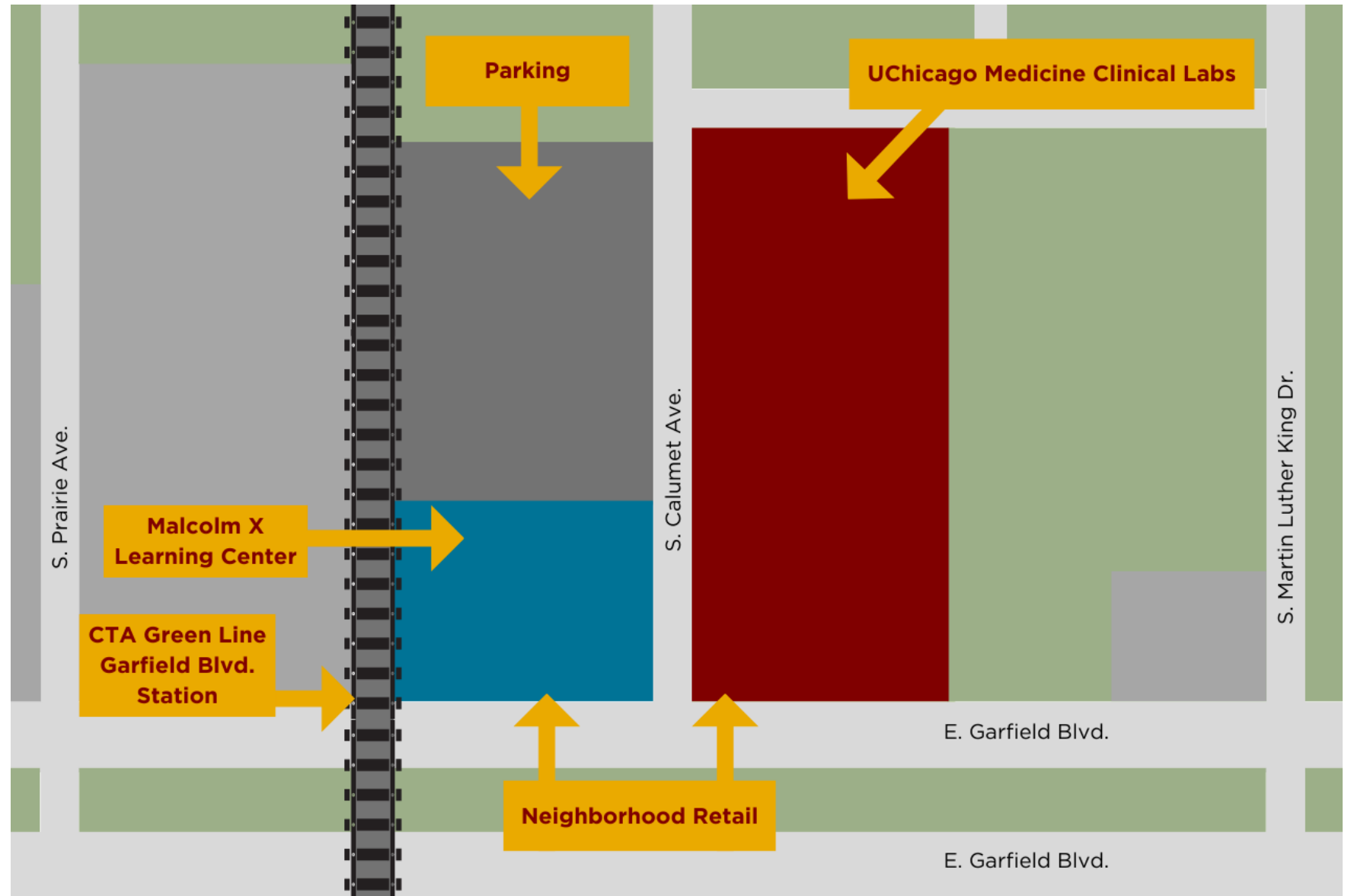
Garfield  
Green Line  
CTA Station

S. Martin Luther King Drive

E. Garfield Blvd.

# Preliminary Site Concept

The proposed project would redevelop two adjacent plots of land on the north side of Garfield Blvd. between the Green Line track and the parcel just east of Calumet Ave.



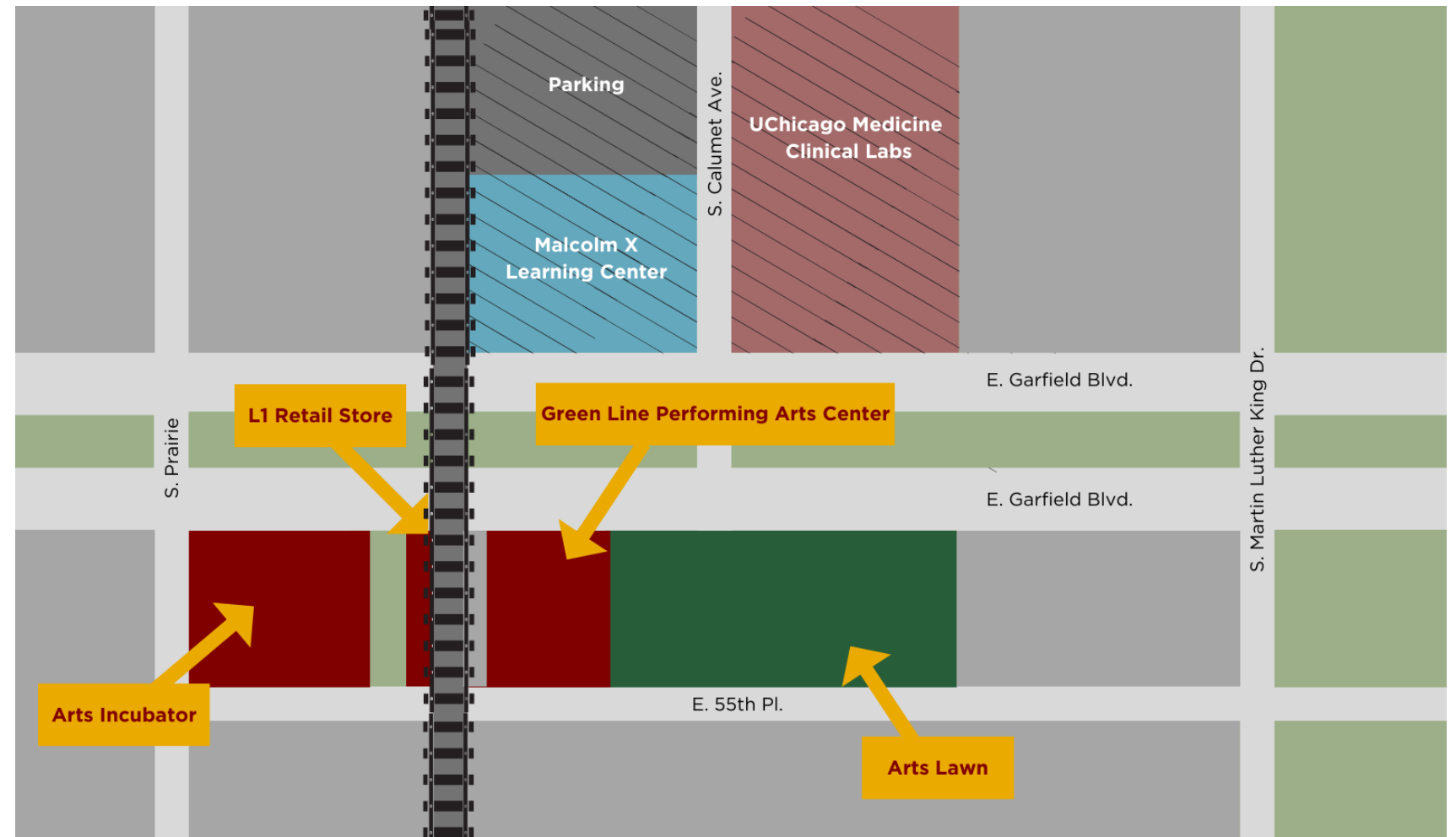
# UChicago's Existing Investments in Washington Park

**L1** - Retail store featuring creative South Side entrepreneurs in historic "L" station

**Green Line Performing Arts Center** - Theater venue for South Side performing artists and theater ensembles

**Arts Incubator** - Mixed-use facility supporting local artists

**Arts Lawn** - Outdoor space for community-facing arts and culture-based programming and performances



# UChicago Medicine Clinical Labs

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Specialized medical laboratory facility built on land owned by the University of Chicago



## **PROJECT BENEFITS:**

- **Consolidate existing UChicago Medicine pathology labs into one location and modernize lab operations**
- **Maximize lab test efficiency to ensure best in class care**
- **Meet increased need for testing stemming from planned Cancer Pavilion coming online in 2027**
- **Provide clinical rotations for Malcolm X students and immediate job opportunities to Malcolm X graduates**



# UChicago Medicine Clinical Labs Job Creation

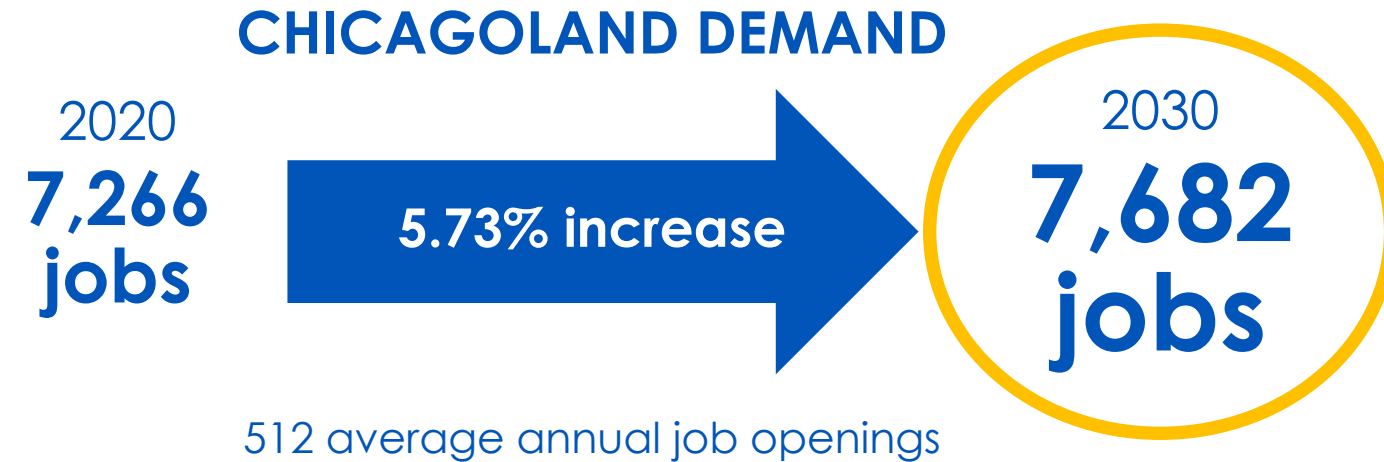
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## **550 jobs supported** by proposed UChicago Medicine facility

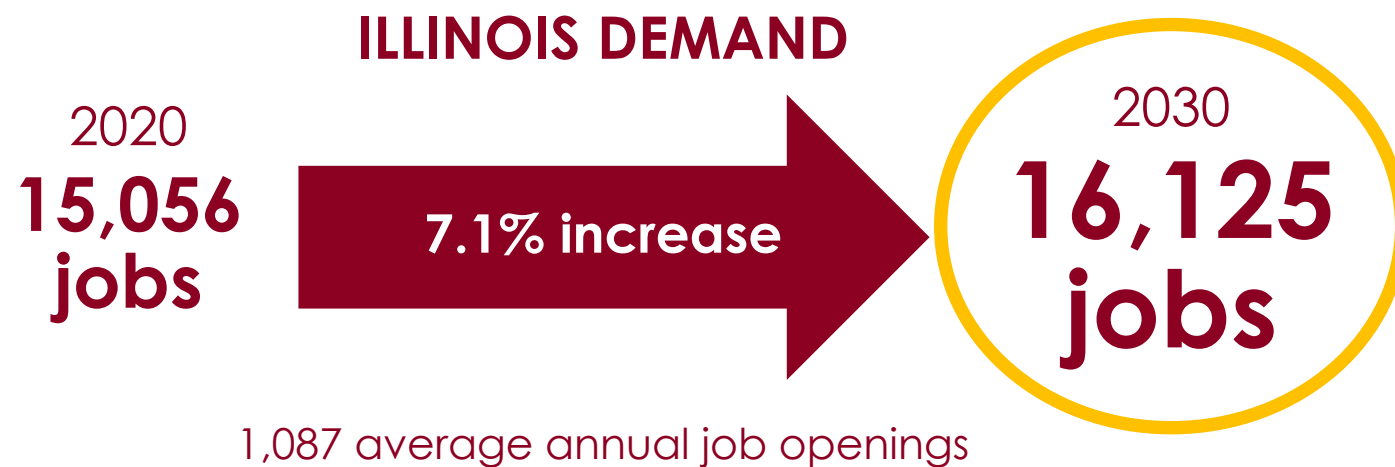
- 350 jobs moved from existing UChicago Medicine buildings
- 200 new positions – entry-level job opportunities for South Side residents



# Demand for Clinical Lab Technicians

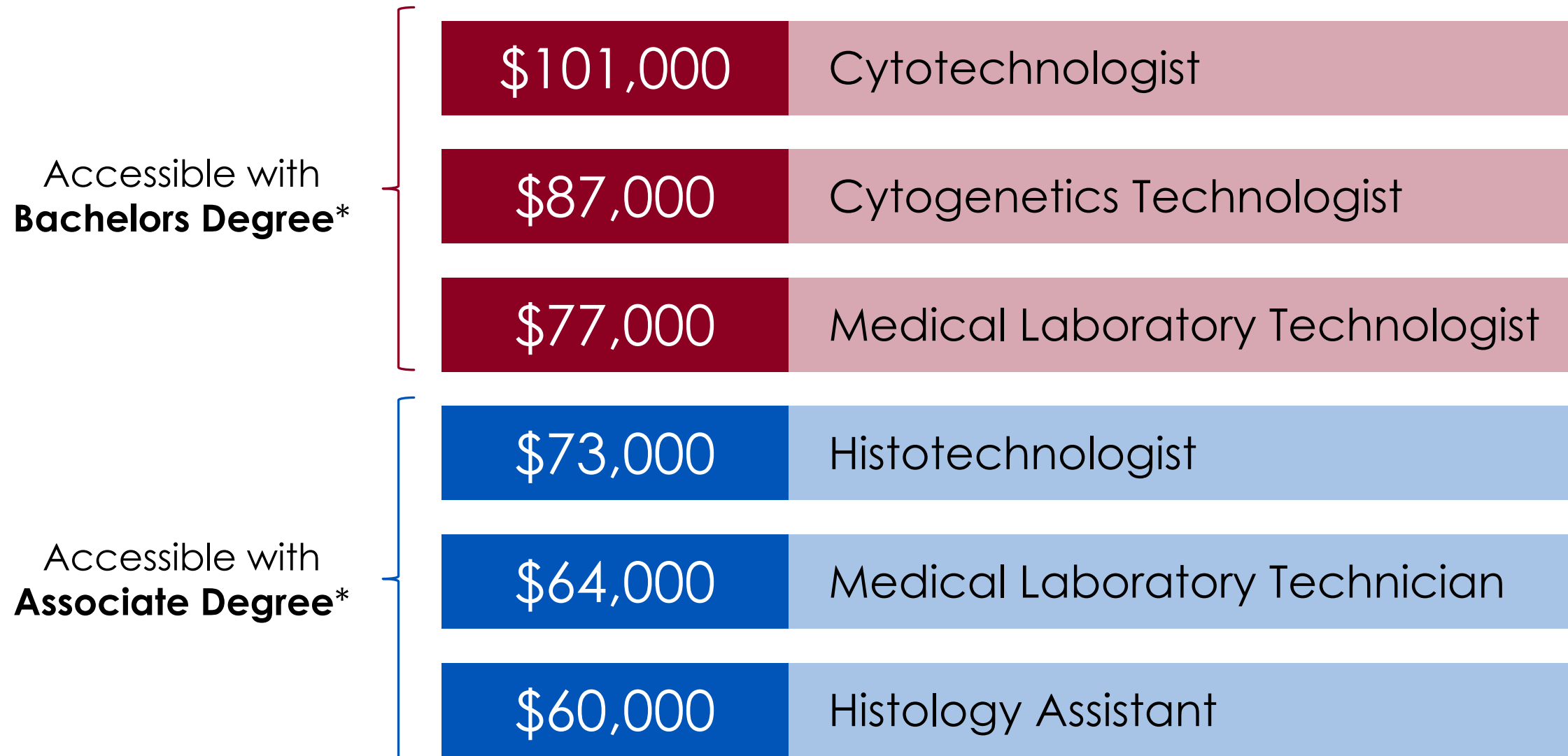


Jobs accessible with a one- to two-year degree



Provide on-ramp to careers in health sciences

# Thriving-wage Employment



\*Average salaries based on public data and UChicago Medicine current compensation

# Malcolm X Learning Center in Washington Park

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New learning center for Malcolm X College including classrooms, dry labs, office space, and ground-floor retail space built on land owned by Chicago Transit Authority

Includes parking structure for students and employees of UChicago Medicine and Malcolm X



## **PROJECT BENEFITS:**

- **Establish first clinical lab technician program in the City of Chicago**
- **Meet high demand from South Side residents for healthcare career pathways**
- **Opportunity to expand Malcolm X programming for other high-demand allied health professions**

# Malcolm X Jobs Supported and Students Served

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When fully operating,

**up to 800 students  
anticipated to be  
served annually**

**50 jobs supported  
initially (full and/or  
part-time roles)**

# Synergy of Projects

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Students study to earn  
**associate degree**



They **gain real world experience** through  
clinical rotation



They leverage degree  
and experience to  
**secure immediate job opportunities** that pay  
well and are close to  
home (UChicago  
Medicine or nearby  
hospital)







They **contribute to strong South Side communities**  
and health ecosystem

# Proximity to South Side Hospitals



**Legend**

-  City Colleges of Chicago
-  CPS High Schools with health science programs
-  Hospitals
-  Howard Brown and Friend Health clinics

# Broader Expansion of City Colleges Healthcare Programs

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Expand opportunities for South Side residents to enroll in City Colleges healthcare programs

Establish full nursing pathway program at Kennedy-King College's Englewood campus, returning full nursing pathway to a college and community since closure in 2012

Kennedy King to serve as preferred home college for South Side students interested in healthcare degree

Nursing pathway program expected to create:

- **50 associate degree in nursing seats at KKC by 2026 and 100 seats by 2028**
- **10 LPN seats by 2026**
- **50 BNA seats by Fall 2024**



# Construction Diversity Goals

## UChicago Medicine

- 35% minority-owned contractors
- 6% women-owned contractors
- 30% of hours from minority journey workers and apprentices
- 40% of hours from minority laborers

## City Colleges of Chicago

- 35% minority-owned contractors
- 7% women-owned contractors



# Guided by Community Input

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Guided by the Washington Park community's recent quality of life plans which prioritized:

- **Workforce development opportunities**
- **New jobs**
- **Revitalization of the Garfield Boulevard corridor**
- **Additional retail establishments on key corridors**
- **Utilization of the Green Line stations as assets for new development**
- **Partnerships with nearby employers and higher education institutions, especially those leading to stable, well-paid careers for residents**

Robust community engagement process will include community meetings at each stage of development

# Preliminary Timeline

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Planning, community engagement,  
and development approvals  
**Through 2024**



Groundbreaking  
**2025**



Opening (Projected)  
**2026-2027 academic year**