



# Cherokee Farm



## What Is Cherokee Farm?

Cherokee Farm will affirm the University's leadership role in driving the state's economy. Conceptually, the site will house technology and research centers, funded by combined state, federal and private investment. Prospective partners are being identified, based on their ability to contribute to the project's mission.

## Powerful Partnerships

Since 2000, the UT-Oak Ridge Partnership has paved the way for creation of more than 60 new businesses through technology transfer. Further, UT's role in ORNL management has greatly enhanced its national research position. Creating Cherokee Farm will take that prominence to another, higher level. It will bring in private sector enterprises, and emphasize cross-disciplinary research that will create new economic opportunities.

## Embracing a Landmark Idea

### Vision

The University of Tennessee proposes to develop Cherokee Farm as a state-of-the-art, technology-oriented research site with a specific mission of enhancing the University's ability to impact economic development through research by taking advantage of unique resources and partnerships.

### Project Description

Cherokee Farm will emphasize increasing University research, visibility and partnerships. Creation of Cherokee Farm is expected to raise the University's research stature nationally, over the next five to 10 years, including the prospect of AAU membership for the Knoxville campus. Cherokee Farm will be key to achieving the goal of national and international leadership in applying basic and translational science and engineering to new commercial activities. The Cherokee Farm campus also will assist economic developers in recruiting new companies to Tennessee and will assist in the creation of new and high-tech jobs.

### Environment, Energy, and Conservation Emphasis

The site involves more than 200 acres west of Alcoa Highway and the Knoxville campus. The University is committed to assuring this facility is a signature development that blends aesthetically with the scenic environment along the Tennessee River by creating a stunning gateway to the UT Knoxville campus and community. Development will complement Knoxville's

emphasis on green development and environmentally sound planning. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification concepts will be a key requirement. Greenfield status is vitally important and state-of-the-art strategies and technologies will be used to achieve sustainability and conservation.

### Status / Details

- Tennessee General Assembly's \$32-million appropriation in June 2007 to be used for site infrastructure including roads, base utilities, fiber optics and construction preparation.
- Anticipate dairy herd transport to other UT facilities by Spring 2008.
- Site plans will adhere to numerous existing regulatory requirements, including no buildings within river flood plain and building height restrictions in compliance with state scenic highway requirements that apply to Alcoa Highway.
- Site plan approach will involve a low-density, low-impact building layout and pedestrian/bicycle-friendly design.
- Groundbreaking on infrastructure anticipated late Spring / early Summer 2008.
- Design anticipated to accommodate up to 2 million square feet of gross building space. Development will occur in phases, over the next 10 years.
- Three buildings currently anticipated for the site: The state/federally funded Joint Institute for Advanced Materials, a privately funded research facility and a funded building with an as-yet undetermined research focus.
- Project being modeled after several of the nation's most successful university-based research parks, including North Carolina State. Among these, Cherokee Farm will be unique for combination of university, national lab and private partners.



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<http://www.tennessee.edu/cherokee>

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## Partnering with the Community

The University of Tennessee is committed to sharing information and listening to concerns of nearby residents. Periodic meetings / conversations with Sequoyah Hills neighborhood representatives have taken place and will continue. A neighborhood representative is included on the planning committee.

The complex will connect Knox County's greenway along the Tennessee River, and natural pedestrian links exist to the Agricultural campus and to the main campus. All development is being coordinated with UT Medical Center and state transportation officials considering enhancements to bridges, ramps and roads in the vicinity.

The University also is exploring the addition of botanical gardens to complement the Trial Gardens on the nearby Agricultural Campus. These features would provide new opportunities for research and teaching in programs like horticulture, landscape architecture and art.

## Planning Group

A planning committee chaired by UT Executive Vice President David Millhorn will provide input and direction for the development. Membership will be made up of representatives from key constituencies and includes:

- Dr. David Millhorn, Group Chair, UT Executive Vice President
- Dr. John McRae, Dean, UT Knoxville College of Architecture and Design
- Dr. Way Kuo, Dean, UT Knoxville College of Engineering
- Dr. Joe DiPietro, UT Vice President Institute of Agriculture
- Dr. Ron Nutt, Nanotechnology for Medicine Group
- Dr. Thomas Zacharia, UT Vice President for Science and Technology /Associate Lab Director, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Dr. Mike Caudle, UT Health Science Center Vice Chancellor for Health System Affairs
- Dr. Jim Neutens, Dean, UT Health Science Center Graduate School of Medicine
- Mr. Mike Edwards, President/CEO Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership
- Mr. Tom Midyett, Sequoyah Hills Neighborhood Representative
- Mr. Jim Hart, Sequoyah Hills Neighborhood Representative
- Dr. Brad Fenwick, UT Knoxville Vice Chancellor for Research
- Ms. Denise Barlow, UT Knoxville Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration
- Ms. Sylvia Davis, UT Vice President for Strategic Planning and Operations
- Dr. Gary Rogers, UT Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
- Dr. Thom Mason, Director, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Dr. Randy Gentry, Director, UT Knoxville Institute for a Secure and Sustainable Environment
- Mr. Joe Landsman, President and CEO, University Health System, Inc.
- Mr. Don Stansberry, UT Trustee
- Mr. John Rader, President, UT Knoxville Student Government Association

