

## Spark Cleantech Accelerator Launched

We recently announced the creation of the Spark Cleantech Accelerator, a 12-week program that will provide mentorship and support to six early stage companies focused on technologies targeting the climate crisis. Applications are now open for the program through March 11, 2022, and the first cohort of the accelerator will begin this June. Financial support is being provided by the U.S. Department of Energy, TVA, the City of Knoxville, LaunchTN, and the Tennessee Advanced Energy Business Council.

[For more information - Click Here](#)



## Outdoor Recreation Center Development Efforts Underway



UT students from both the UT School of Architecture and Design and the Tickle College of Engineering have been working together to imagine and design an Outdoor Recreation Center at the UT Research Park. The center would provide access to the Tennessee River and the Knox-Blount Greenway, and would serve the university and the community as a whole. University leadership has agreed to fund a feasibility study for the effort, and several organizations have already expressed interest in helping make the students' vision a reality.

There are three potential designs for the center; if you'd like to get involved please contact Rickey McCallum at [rickey@tnresearchpark.org](mailto:rickey@tnresearchpark.org)

## UT Knoxville Negotiating To Occupy Space In New Orthopaedic Institute

The new Orthopaedic Institute, a partnership between UT Medical Center and OrthoTN, will open this spring at the Research Park. UT-Knoxville is developing plans to establish a clinical trials center that will provide UT faculty with opportunities to collaborate to identify and recruit patient populations and to seek funding support for health-related research. The top floor of the 93,000 square foot Institute will be dedicated to promoting research and development.



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## Spark Innovation Center Focus: EONIX



Our featured Spark Innovation Center client this quarter is EONIX, an early-stage company focused on the development of non-flammable lithium ion batteries. Founder Don DeRosa really hit his stride in late 2021 with a substantial R&D award from the US Army and negotiations with a large potential strategic partner. In addition, EONIX will be teaming with UT/ORNL Governors' Chair Dr. Tom Zawadzinski to develop a new collaborative energy storage research center on UT-Knoxville's main campus.