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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE CITY OF MASON ANNOUNCES MEDICAL DEVICE COMPANY ATRICURE TO BE SIGNATURE TENANT IN NEW OAKPARK DISTRICT**

*Walkable district with creative space, restaurants and new I-­‐71 interchange takes shape*

Mason, OH (April 29, 2014) – The City of Mason announced today that AtriCure, a publicly held, leading atrial fibrillation (Afib) medical device manufacturer, will become an early signature tenant in the new OakPark District planned at Western Row and Innovation Way. The area has been designed to attract and retain young talent needed in bioscience and advanced manufacturing industries surrounding the district.

One of the primary reasons for AtriCure’s move is its rapid growth and need for more space to accommodate its clinical research, manufacturing and administrative expansion. The City of Mason saw AtriCure’s corporate profile as a perfect match for the innovative, entrepreneurial mindset of the city and its long-­‐term master plan for the 250-­‐acre OakPark District. From AtriCure’s origin as a start-­‐up medical device company to the global innovator in atrial fibrillation treatment it is today, the company is an excellent early addition to OakPark with other pacesetters like Luxottica’s EyeMed, Stress Engineering’s Medical Device Division, the Lindner Center of HOPE and Seapine Software. In addition, AtriCure’s focus on attracting and growing a young, creative talent base and Mason’s educated population combined with strategic partnerships with the college and university network, career-­‐oriented organizations (such as BioOhio and the Ohio Cooperative Education Association) bring a robust synergy to the partnership.

Mason has become an expert in taking measured risk in land acquisition and development and leveraging its financial strength to attract young companies like AtriCure that match its model for biohealth cluster growth. With a Moody’s Aaa bond rating and strong relationships with investment partners like CincyTech, the City of Mason has become a go-­‐to resource for young, fast-­‐growing companies. City leadership’s priority is to foster an environment that supports both young and mature

companies with unique needs in laboratory space, technical infrastructure and unique financial resources.

“We had a very thorough search process and determined Mason was the best fit for our growth, given their competitive financial package and focus on health and wellness as a community,” said Mike Carrel, AtriCure president and CEO. “The City of Mason has been a good partner for bioscience growth companies and they provided the best mix of logistic, financial and partnership benefits that will help position us for strategic growth and attract top talent for years to come.”

“Our agreement with AtriCure is the perfect intersection between the City of Mason’s goal of expanding our bioscience cluster and AtriCure’s goal of positioning themselves for remarkable growth in the medical device sector,“ said City of Mason Mayor David F. Nichols. “Providing businesses with the environment, the financial package and the collaborative government support to become the company they envision is one of our greatest strengths as a city. AtriCure’s presence goes a long way toward solidifying the new OakPark District as an energetic and vibrant place of creativity and vision where new ideas are born.”

“The City of Mason’s continued success in growing the bioscience cluster in the Greater Cincinnati region is crucial to our goal of creating jobs and investment in the region. Thanks to the creativity and vision of Mason leadership in helping to energize and actualize this effort,” said Johnna Reeder, president and CEO of REDI Cincinnati, LLC, the region’s leading economic development initiative.

AtriCure will build its new two-­‐story, 85,000 sf state of the art global corporate headquarters, on a 10.5 acre campus in the Oakpark District on Innovation Way that will house 200 science and technology employees in the first five years. The City of Mason will offer $2.9 million in financial incentives over a 15-­‐year period that include tax abatement, a customized grant and workforce wellness incentives.

“AtriCure’s presence in the OakPark District will help solidify the City of Mason as a growing biohealth cluster and advanced manufacturing industry sector,” said Mayor Nichols. “Partnerships such as these are made possible with the support of our partners, our excellent school system, city leadership and a city Council that is business-­‐minded.”

AtriCure’s decision to plan their growth strategy in Mason is an acknowledgment that the resources needed to grow biohealth industry sector companies are here in the City and the Region. The company is significant to the innovation and medical device industries, leading the way with the development of atrial fibrillation surgical treatments, physician education and support for clinical science to reduce the economic and social burden of atrial fibrillation. AtriCure's Isolator® Synergy™ Ablation System is the first and only device approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the surgical

treatment of persistent and longstanding persistent forms of Afib in patients undergoing certain open heart procedures concomitantly (simultaneously).

Groundbreaking will happen later this year with AtriCure moving into the new headquarters facility in late 2015 or early 2016.

The City of Mason’s new bioscience corridor in the new OakPark District on Innovation Way is envisioned to be a walkable district with restaurants, open creative spaces and retail to appeal to a growing millennial workforce in Mason.

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**ABOUT THE CITY OF MASON:** Mason, Ohio, is the largest municipality in Warren County, Ohio, and part of the CincinnatiUSA Region. With more than 100 corporate, high-­‐tech and industrial businesses located in the city limits, Mason has grown to become a magnet for cutting edge industries ranging from bioscience and digital IT to global publicly-­‐held corporations. Cintas, Procter & Gamble, Luxottica Retail, Mitsubishi, Assurex Health, and FANUC Robotics America, are just a few of the companies that call Mason home. The top 10 largest employers generate more than $5.3 million annually in earnings revenue that is reinvested into the community. More information is available at [www.imaginemason.org/business.](http://www.imaginemason.org/business)