

## Autoworker Caravan

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# Rally for 21st Century Transportation/Energy Jobs at the North American International Auto Show Across from Cobo Hall, Downtown Detroit Sunday, January 8 @ 1:30-3 pm

December 3rd, 2011 by AWC

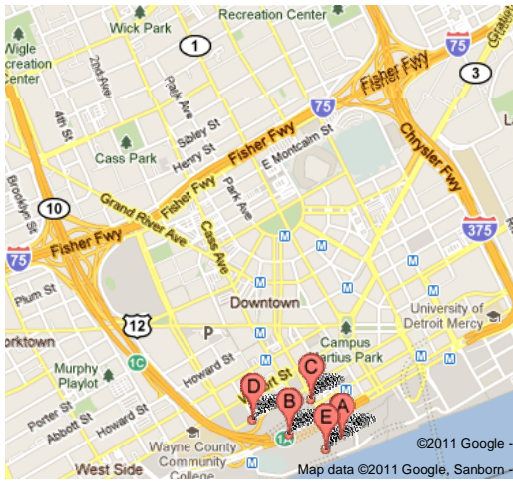
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Because oil will not be the stable and driving force of the 21st century, the cars and trucks featured in this year's auto show are already obsolete and represent at best homage to a dying way of life. It's as if the Cobo Hall of the early 1900's had featured the latest and greatest of horse-drawn carriages, while they were already doomed as quaint relics of the past by the revolutionary advent of the automobile.

A similar revolution is underway today, although there is little hint of it among the glitter and brawn on display inside Cobo. That revolution is being driven by two forces: the ever more rapid depletion of the earth's ready oil supply and the rising temperature of the planet due to the burning of fossil fuels. The reason there's no mention of these two realities inside the exhibition hall is simple: they threaten the wealth, power and profit-taking of the 1% – in this case, the oil and auto barons who are peddling their wares at Cobo. These two industrial giants of the last century, aided by the corporate media, consistently downplay or cover up scientific predictions of “peak oil” and the reality of global warming which is having dire consequences for climate change. Preferring to keep their money-machine going, they are actively preventing the public from making the connections between extreme climate – freak snow storms, massive hurricanes, record heat waves, extreme flooding and droughts – and the warming of the planet induced by our reliance on fossil fuels.

It is no surprise to us as autoworkers that the Marchionnes, Mullalys and Ackersons of the Detroit 3 have little regard for the earth that provides them the resources for their profit taking. We know firsthand that these CEO's have little regard for workers who provide the labor, without which there would be no profits and their outrageous bonuses. The Detroit 3, in cahoots with their Wall St. financiers, have decimated our ranks through automation, outsourcing and offshoring – and are demanding ever more output at cut-throat wages from those “lucky” enough to still be working. Nowhere is this more glaring than at the nearby GM Lake Orion assembly plant – site of the Chevy Sonic and Buick Verano, now on display at Cobo. Inside the plant, GM has contracted with “LINC Logistics” – owned by the billionaire Maroun family (owners of the Ambassador Bridge) – which is intent on paying workers less than \$10/hr. -poverty wages for a family of four!

While the media is filled with stories about the “rebound” of the domestic auto industry, we as autoworkers know that the billions of new profits are coming at the expense of our livelihoods, the quality of life in our communities, and the sustainability of our planet. We intend to be the voice of sanity, and will be in the frontlines fighting for new 21st century transportation/energy jobs. We are demanding that the abandoned factories immediately be nationalized, retooled and reopened to produce for the new 21st century fossil-fuel free economy, reemploying the vast number of unemployed workers who want to put their industrial skills to good use. The endangered condition of our warming planet requires nothing less!



View Larger Map [http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=embed&hl=en&geocode=&q=Cobo+Hall,+Detroit,+MI&aq=0&sl=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=39.729049,79.013672&vpsrc=0&ie=UTF8&hq=Cobo+Hall,+Detroit,+MI&t=m&z=14&iwloc=A]

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