



COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM



MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Winter 2022



Council on Future Mobility and Electrification



Fast Charging Stations For EV By Earth and Main from Washington, D.C., United States <https://www.flickr.com/photos/earthandmain/33644529448> [CC BY-SA 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Electrification is driving changes throughout the auto industry and nowhere is that more apparent than right here in Michigan. Whether it is GM retooling of Factory Zero to produce BEVs & AVs, Ford building the F-150 Lightning in Dearborn and e-motors at Van Dyke Transmission, or Stellantis preparing its Michigan assembly plants for plug-in hybrids Jeep, Michigan's auto industry is investing in the growth of electric vehicles. In the face of these changes, the UAW is fighting every day to make sure workers have a seat at the table.

In Michigan, the UAW is working with Gov. Whitmer and other policymakers on many fronts to make sure future auto technology is built here in Michigan and creates quality jobs for union workers. One aspect of this work is participating the Michigan Council on Future Mobility and Electrification (CFME), a council created by Gov. Whitmer to bring together key stakeholders and recommend public policies that will continue Michigan's role as the center of auto innovation.[1]

To give a voice to autoworkers on the new council, Gov. Whitmer appointed UAW Research Director Jeff Dokho as a member of the council. The council serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor, state legislature, and the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's new Office on Future

Council on Future Mobility and Electrification Continued...

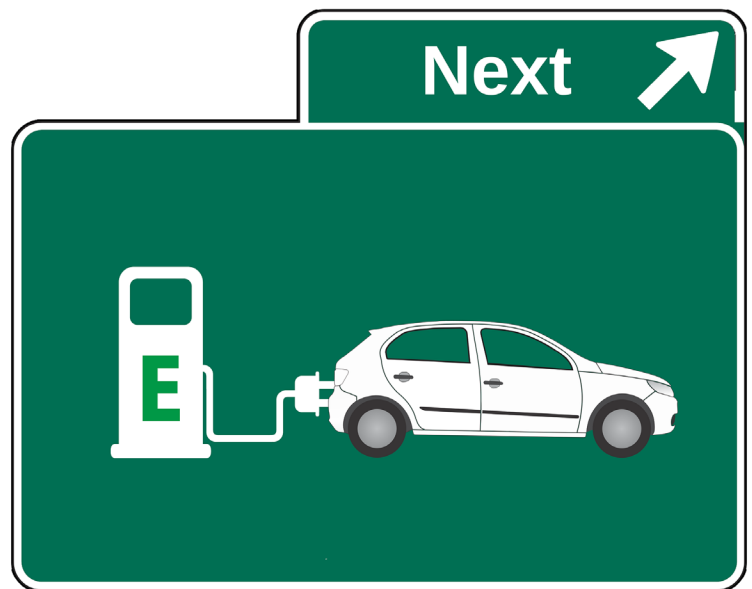
Mobility and Electrification and publishes an annual report with policy recommendations. With a seat on the council, the UAW is engaging with industry experts, state officials, NGOs, and academics to develop policies to maintain Michigan's place as the center of auto innovation and make future technology a win-win for workers, the environment, and the state. Working with key stakeholders, we have an opportunity to build upon Michigan's strengths as the nation's leading auto manufacturing state.

That is why we are supporting policies that continue to attract major manufacturing investments and create quality union jobs for workers in the state. And through the council's workgroup on Economic and Workforce Development, we are promoting policies that encourage employers to invest in their workforce through training and create programs that prepare workers at all education levels for work in new auto technology. Because no matter where new automotive technology takes us, it is vital to the state and national economy that these new vehicles and components are made here by union workers.

We are also supporting the Build Back Better Act, specifically the EV provision that is sponsored by Senator Debbie Stabenow and Rep. Dan Kildee that would provide an additional \$4,500 to consumers who purchase a union-made electric vehicle built in the U.S. This is an extraordinary provision that states union-negotiated standards are the basic minimum that companies must meet to benefit from certain taxpayer funded programs. It promotes onshoring jobs previously sent overseas while providing real incentives for non-unionized auto manufacturers to allow their workers to organize with the UAW to ensure their workers

are paid fairly with good benefits and work in a safer environment. The provision will keep the \$7,500 base tax credit for consumers who purchase EVs while removing the current 200,000 vehicle cap that prevents General Motors from being able to offer the current credit. After five years, only US-made vehicles will qualify for the tax credits. There are already vehicles that these tax credits could be used for if passed, made right here in Michigan as well as other Union plants across the U.S. Vehicles like the Chevrolet Bolt EV Crossover and EUV, the GMC Hummer, and the new F-150 Lightning. There are many more electric vehicles that have been announced by the Big 3 that will start production in the coming years.

Non-union auto companies are lobbying strenuously to strip out this language, so it is critical that we continue to build support to maintain the existing language and as of now the entire bill has been sidelined in the U.S. Senate. We need our members to reach out to their elected officials to help pressure them into passing this bill either by signing petitions or calling their offices. You can do this by reaching out to your Regional CAP Reps for more information.



[1] In February 2020, Gov. Whitmer signed Executive Order 2020-2 creating the Michigan Council on Future Mobility and Electrification (CFME): https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90501_90626-542997--,00.html

Redistricting Commission Approves New Maps

After many delays and legal challenges, the 13-member Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission has voted through a full set of maps. This will help Democrats gain a competitive edge after a decade of strongly gerrymandered political boundaries drawn by Republicans. The final Congressional map passed 8-5, the state Senate map passed 9-4 and the state House map passed 11-2. During the final vote, commissioners stated their top pick for each category instead of an outright yes or no vote on each individual map. There could still be more litigation to come however due to arguments over the slashing of Black majority districts possibly violating the Voting Rights act.

The new districts at both Congressional and state legislative levels will cause many incumbents to face each other in the upcoming elections, realign traditional political boundaries and make changes some Michiganders have long asked for, including making a Lansing-centric Congressional district and uniting the city of Flint into the same political districts. You can find the new maps — labeled “Chestnut”, “Linden” and “Hickory” — on the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission’s website. It is very important to study them as there is a chance that your districts may have changed.

The new state Senate map will see Detroit carved up into several state Senate districts, with district boundary lines looping in Detroit neighborhoods with suburban communities, occasionally crossing county lines into Oakland and Macomb. It also splits the city of Ann Arbor and the city of Grand Rapids into two separate districts. The Tri-Cities region of Saginaw, Bay City and Midland will all be contained in the same state Senate district. Lansing and East Lansing are now split into two state Senate seats and Dearborn and Dearborn Heights are now included in the same Senate district.

On the state House side, the city of Detroit is split into a series of districts that loop Detroit neighborhoods in with surrounding suburban areas. The city of Flint is in a single House district, which was heavily requested by Flint-area voters. The city of Ann Arbor is split into four separate districts. Like the state Senate map, Dearborn Heights now shares a state House district with a portion of Dearborn and the city of Livonia is now split three ways.

To view the new maps and find more information about any new challenges the maps are facing, be sure to visit the Redistricting Commission’s website, <https://www.michigan.gov/micrc>.

Who represents you?

How to find your State Representative, State Senator, US Senators and US Representatives and how to make sure you are prepared for Election Day.

In order to be a good citizen, you’ve got to fully participate in your democracy. How? Start by finding out who represents you at the state and national level, and make sure your ability to vote is in order!

You can start here: www.fec.gov

Just type in your ZIP code and you’ll get the name of your US Representative in Congress.

Then visit here: house.michigan.gov

Click the “Representatives” tab at the top, and use the search function to determine your State Representative.

Last, but not least, go to: senate.michigan.gov

You can find your State Senator by name, map, or address.

Finally, head over to Michigan.gov/SOS

Once there, check out the Michigan Voter Information Center under the “Election” tab, where you can confirm that you are registered to vote and verify your voter information.

You can also download your absentee ballot application, track your absentee ballot, and look over a sample ballot for the upcoming election.

Vote. It’s your right.