

## **GM Waste Soon to Heat, Cool Hamtramck Assembly**

As the saving goes, one man's trash is another man's treasure.

And to that end, General Motors and Detroit Renewable Energy (DRE) announced on Nov. 18 a renewable energy project to turn solid municipal waste from Metro Detroit into process steam that will be used to heat and cool portions of GM's Detroit-Hamtramck assembly plant.

When the project is operational, 58 percent of the plant's energy needs will come from renewable energy, making Detroit-Hamtramck the top GM facility in the world by percentage of renewable energy used.

"We have 107 landfill-free facilities across the globe that recycle or reuse their waste, with some of it turned into energy," said Rob Threlkeld, GM's global manager of Renewable Energy. "It made sense to explore this option with DRE at Detroit-Hamtramck, given their quality work in helping us manage our energy use at some of our other GM plants.'

DRE is able to process more than 1 million tons of municipal solid waste into electric power and steam while also recycling nearly 40,000 tons of metal annually.

The steam will travel 8,300 feet through a pipe originating at Detroit Renewable Power and ending at the Detroit-Hamtramck plant.

"We have a long history of

working with GM in providing energy to its assembly plants," said Detroit Renewable Energy Chairman and CEO Steven White.

"To incorporate a sustainable and renewable energy source into the Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly Plant makes a significant addition to the value chain."

The steam pipe will provide 15.8 megawatts of renewable energy to the plant, which equates to 12 percent of GM's overall goal of putting 125 megawatts of renewable energy into its energy portfolio by 2020.

The DRE facility is a little more than a mile away from the GM plant, Threlkeld said. It already powers a couple of other non-GM buildings in downtown Detroit, and when GM learned that fact, a decision was made to get renewable energy from that facility.

A lot of people want to know how GM can say energy from municipal waste is "renewable," Threlkeld said. GM works closely with the EPA on a number of energy projects and the EPA's definition of renewable.

GM already gets energy from waste at three other facilities. One is in Indiana. The other two are Toledo Transmission and Orion Assembly.

Construction of the new steam line and associated energy infrastructure will begin later this month and become operational next spring.

## **GM Foundation's Float Supports STEM**

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Mentoring programs are also available, and five of the seven participating schools are operating at capacity.

'That's important because when a school has fewer students attending, it has fewer resources allocated to it to help students," Nicklin said.

Tony Michaels, president and CEO of The Parade Company, said, "We are delighted that the GM Foundation has chosen such an inspiring theme for their new float.

"We are certain that parade goers will be entertained by both its theme and the intricate design."

The float offers a futuristic scene with two students leaving high school and embarking on their futures, Mainville said. Arriving at a crossroads, the students find themselves presented with four educational roads to take: Science Way, Math Lane, Engineering Road and Technology Drive.

**GM Club Seeks** Volunteers for

Each road provides examples of the opportunities that await them as STEM majors.

The float is 17 feet tall and 60 feet long. An animated robot controls the action on board and features a pneumatically powered head and mouth that move.

The float also incorporates hydrogen and electric charging stations.

America's Thanksgiving Parade, in its 87th year, is produced by The Parade Company, and will step off at Woodward Avenue and Mack on Thanksgiving Day and will end at Woodward Avenue and Congress in downtown Detroit.

## **Holiday Travel Expected to Hit** 1.3M in Michigan CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

return on Monday, Dec. 2, or later, according to the AAA Michigan survey.

Thanksgiving holiday travel is typically less expensive than other holiday travel because of



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## **Lions-Packers**

Interested in making a difference this Thanksgiving? Then Club GM has something for you. The club is looking for volunteers to work at Ford Field for the Lions/Packers Game on Thanksgiving Day. The organization runs a concession stand at the game. All proceeds are distributed to local charities.

GM Club president Ardin Hammel said volunteering is a great way to show thanks for all that has been given by giving time to others in need.

All are welcome to volunteer, whether or not they're GM employees. All volunteers must be over 16.

The club will arrive at Ford Field about 9 a.m., and leave about 5 p.m. Parking is free, lunch is provided.

Interested? contact Katie Murphy at Katherine.murphy@gm-.com, or call her at 586-441-8670.

the emphasis on the Thanksgiving meal and family gatherings.

According to AAA's Leisure Travel Index, Thanksgiving airfares are comparable with last year, with the average lowest round-trip rate \$187 for the top 40 U.S. air routes, compared with \$188 last year.

Weekend daily car rental rates will average \$50, compared with \$47 last year.

Roads and airports will be busy, Cain said, so AAA advises travelers to allow extra time to get to their destination.

The holiday coincides with Michigan's firearm deer hunting season. An estimated 700,000 hunters are expected to be on the roads Nov. 15-30.

During last year's holiday period, Michigan State Police reported there were nine fatal crashes resulting in nine fatalities on Michigan roads.

Three of those were not wearing seat belts. Two of the crashes involved alcohol.