

FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF BWILSON@THEKIRKLANDCO.COM

From the Louisville Business First:

[https://www.bizjournals.com/louisville/news/2023/10/30/ford-to-invest-nearly-2b-in-louisville-facilities.html?](https://www.bizjournals.com/louisville/news/2023/10/30/ford-to-invest-nearly-2b-in-louisville-facilities.html?utm_source=st&utm_medium=en&utm_campaign=ae&utm_content=LO&j=33194898&senddate=2023-10-30&empos=p1)

[utm_source=st&utm_medium=en&utm_campaign=ae&utm_content=LO&j=33194898&senddate=2023-10-30&empos=p1](https://www.bizjournals.com/louisville/news/2023/10/30/ford-to-invest-nearly-2b-in-louisville-facilities.html?utm_source=st&utm_medium=en&utm_campaign=ae&utm_content=LO&j=33194898&senddate=2023-10-30&empos=p1)

SUBSCRIBER CONTENT:

BREAKING



Solar energy company to invest \$800M in Louisville area facility

Sign up for breaking news alerts

Manufacturing

Ford to invest nearly \$2 billion in Louisville plants as part of UAW labor deal



Image: Louisville Business First

A line worker works on the chassis of a F-Series Super Duty truck at the Kentucky Truck Plant in Louisville on May 24, 2023.



By [Joel Stinnett](#) – Senior reporter, Louisville Business First
Oct 30, 2023

Ford Motor Co. (NYSE: F) is spending some big bucks on the Bluegrass State as part of its new labor deal.

The Dearborn, Michigan -based automaker will invest \$1.95 billion in its two Louisville facilities, according to a United Auto Workers report sent to union members, including \$750 million in the Kentucky Truck Plant and \$1.2 billion in the Louisville Assembly Plant.

The investments will allow the Truck Plant to continue making Ford's Super Duty trucks and both the gasoline and hybrid electric models of the Expedition and Navigator vehicles, according to the report.

The \$1.2 billion investment in the Louisville Assembly Plant will [add a new electric vehicle product](#) to the facility, while allowing it to continue making the Escape and Corsair models through their planned lifecycles.

In total, Ford will invest \$8.1 billion across 22 facilities during the lifetime of the labor deal, according to the report, with Louisville's \$1.95 billion portion representing nearly a quarter of the funding.

“Your UAW bargainers set key goals for these negotiations to retain and grow employment opportunities for our UAW members. During these negotiations, your UAW bargaining team was focused on product and investments for all of our plants to secure UAW jobs. They realized the important issues of the transition to electric vehicles and all of the associated work that goes into building them, as well as getting investments into those plants that will continue to make [internal combustion engine] vehicles,” the union said in the report.

The details come after Ford and UAW officials reached a [tentative labor agreement last week](#) following a 41-day strike across multiple plants, including a two-week strike at the Kentucky Truck Plant. In the report, UAW officials said the Kentucky Truck Plant's walkout "landed the biggest blow" to Ford during the strike.

The deal still needs to be ratified by UAW members. Multiple outlets have reported that Louisville UAW Local 862 members will vote on the agreement Nov. 12 at a yet-to-be-determined location.

The deal includes 25% wage increases over its four-year span, including an 11% increase and a \$5,000 bonus upon ratification of the agreement, according to the report. Cost of

living adjustments were also reinstated as part of the agreement, which are expected to amount to \$1.78 per hour or \$8,800 over the lifetime of the deal.

In total, production workers at full rate will see \$68,200 in economic gains during the deal, skilled workers will see \$91,700 in economic gains and temporary workers converted to full-time will see \$171,800 to \$193,300 in economic gains during the four-year agreement, according to the report.

Other highlights of the deal include the elimination of wage tiers, enhanced profit sharing, health care enhancements, the right to strike over plant closings and battery/electric vehicle agreements, according to the report.

Ford, through a joint venture with SK On, is building two EV battery plants in Glendale, Kentucky – a total investment of \$5.8 billion. The company had initially planned to open both of those plants in 2025 but it [said last week that it would delay production](#) at one of the plants until 2026.

Those plants will produce batteries for future Ford EVs and are expected to eventually create 5,000 jobs in Hardin County. Ford already is one of Louisville's largest employers, with roughly 13,000 workers in the area.

In May, Ford and more than 8,500 UAW workers announced [they would assemble at the Kentucky Truck Plant the all-new 2023 Ford F-Series Super Duty](#), which Ford is now delivering in all trim levels to retail and commercial customers. This was one of the largest investments in Jefferson County's history.

T H E L I S T

Louisville's Largest Employers

Local FTEs: 2023

Rank	Prior Rank	Name / Prior rank
1	1	United Parcel Service Inc.
2	2	Norton Healthcare Inc.
3	3	Jefferson County Public Schools

[View This List](#)