

Lima Auto Task Force



# Lima Auto Task Force



## Welcome to Lima, Allen County, Ohio!

- Located in NW Ohio
- Center of 8-county agricultural region
- Between Toledo, Dayton, Ft Wayne, & Columbus @ the axis of I-75 & US 30
- Center of rail & pipeline infrastructure
- Metro pop. of 83,000, with city slipping below 40,000
- Regional population in excess of 400,000





## Lima Auto Task Force



***The west central region of Ohio has 107 auto related manufacturing businesses, employing nearly 16,000 people.***

***Within Allen County, we have 13 auto related manufacturing businesses, employing nearly 4,300 people.***





# Lima Auto Task Force



- Lima & Allen County had several prior successes using a Task Force format.
  - **BP Task Force** – prevented closure of the Lima Refinery saving 350 company and 200 contractor jobs.
  - **Task Force LIMA** - formed around the BRAC process & successfully kept open the Lima Army Tank Plant and facilitated its re-commissioning as the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center' increasing the workforce from 400 to 1254 current employees since 2006.

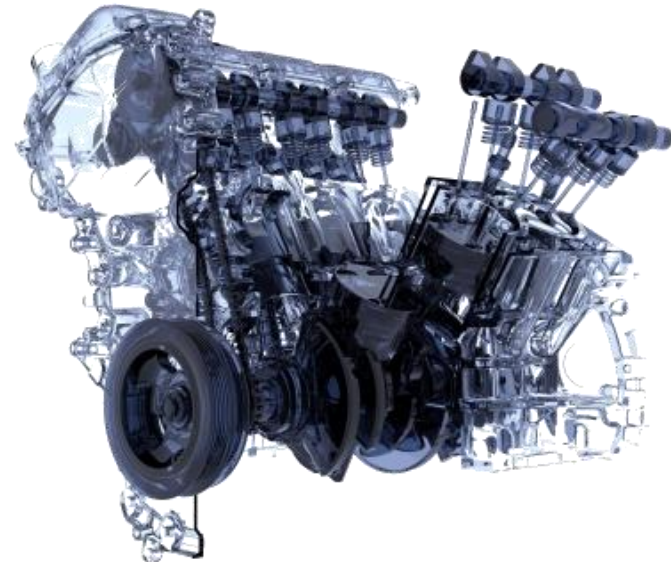




## Lima Auto Task Force



- The Lima Auto Task Force held its first meeting on Nov. 1, 2004
- Attending the meeting were:
  - Ford Lima Engine Plant Management
  - UAW Local 1219 Representatives
  - City of Lima Representatives
  - Allen County Commissioners
  - Allen Economic Development Group
  - Allen County Chamber of Commerce
  - ODOD Governor's Regional Office





## Lima Auto Task Force



### At the initial meeting . . .

- CAR's Sean McAlinden gave a presentation about the Automotive Communities Program.
- The group discussed a possible mission for the Task Force and what other participants should be included. Reps were added from Bath Township, the Congressional Delegation & other business leaders.
- The group decided to meet monthly to discuss & act on issues related to Ford's LEP and the automotive industry in the region.



## Lima Auto Task Force



### The Task Force defined its Purpose as:

- Providing support to Ford's LEP to retaining existing & attract new manufacturing capacity.
- Researching trends in auto manufacturing in relation to Lima and Allen County.
- Responding to opportunities & challenges for auto manufacturing.
- Establishing routine communication between private industry and other community stakeholders.
- Exchanging information on potential projects & needs.





## Lima Auto Task Force



### **The Task Force established a Mission Statement**

*“The Lima Auto Task Force is a community and business partnership committed to attracting new Automotive Technology and Manufacturing jobs to our community.*

*Through Innovative Strategies the Lima Area **IS** the most Profitable Decision!”*



# Lima Auto Task Force



**The Task Force then started several projects . . .**

- Joined CAR's ACP
- As Ford Motor Company & UAW decisions were made re: labor agreements and the Duratec 35 engine line, the community stepped up efforts to encourage the LEP investment.
- Contributed to the "Why North" whitepaper written by CAR.
- Brought David Cole and Sean McAlinden for public speaking opportunities locally.

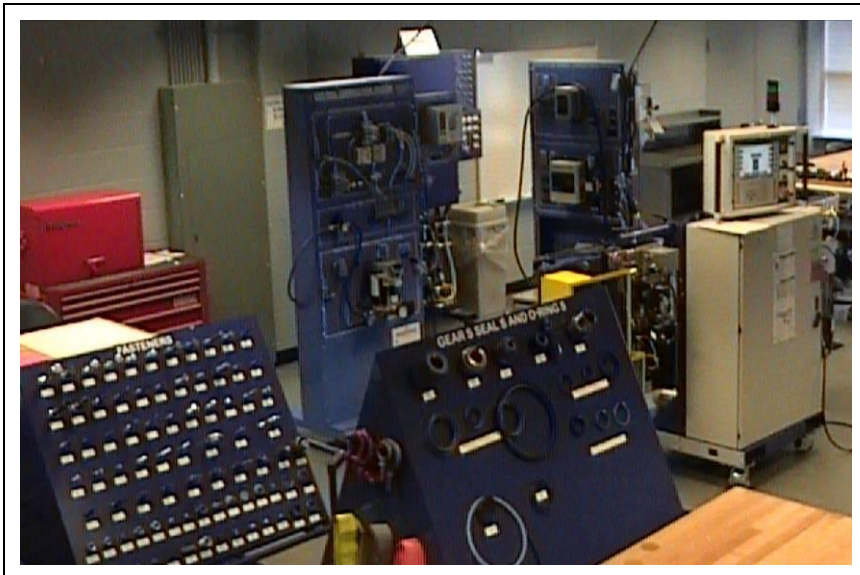




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- Worked with the company, UAW and State of Ohio to access \$1,000,000 in training grants for the manufacturing work teams concept at Ford Lima Engine Plant.



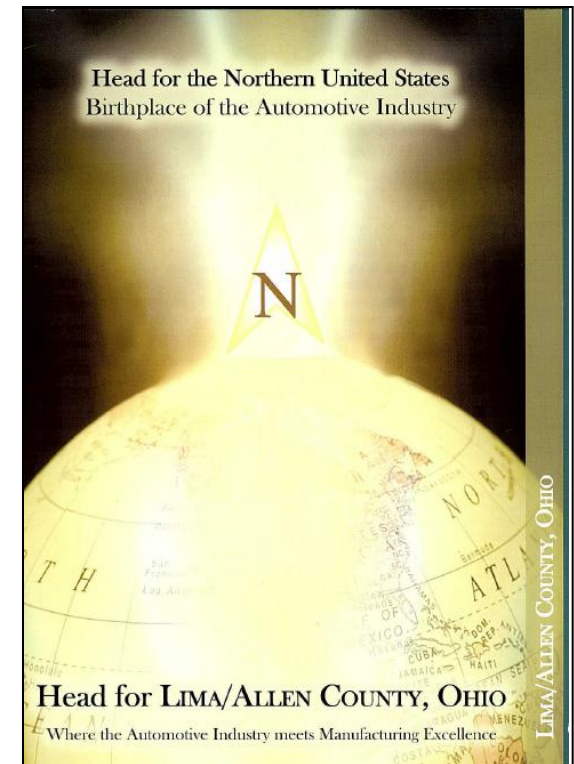
**Governor Strickland and LT Governor Fisher show their support for Lima Built 3.7L Lincoln Engine**



## Lima Auto Task Force



- Convened auto supplier workshop for 8 county region.
- Developed comprehensive marketing piece highlighting the competitive advantage of auto manufacturing in Allen County.
- Establishing Gateway Commerce Park as an Automotive Supplier Park.

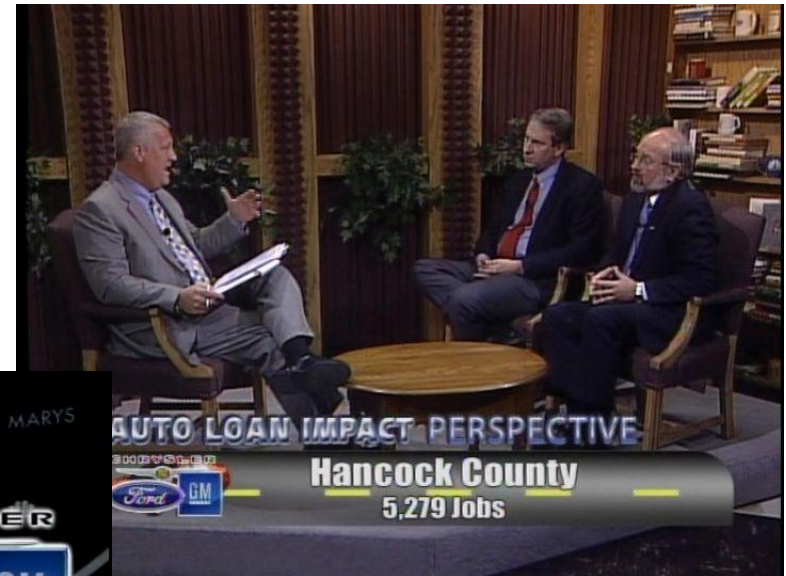




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- In late '08 as the national economic crisis deepened, the Task Force engaged local media in sustained positive coverage and editorial positions in support of Federal assistance to the automotive industry.





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**The Task Force has participated in a number of ACP activities including . . .**

- Management Briefing Seminars held in Traverse City, Michigan
- Frankfurt Auto Show, Frankfurt, Germany
- Volkswagen Suppliers Show, Wolfsburg, Germany
- Regional ACP meetings



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