

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE OPTIMISTIC ON KANSAS CITY CHANCES FOR GM FAIRFAX PLANT

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole tonight said he is optimistic that General Motors will announce plans in the very near future to build a new \$775 million manufacturing facility in the Fairfax Industrial District of Kansas City, Kansas. The facility, which will ultimately replace a Fairfax GM plant that has been in operation for 25 years, will produce a new front wheel drive model.

Dole made the statement following a top-level staff meeting with GM officials in his Washington office.

"Kansas City, Kansas is to be commended for its initiative in putting together an creative and attractive economic package," said Senator Dole.

The long-awaited General Motors decision comes after months of lobbying and negotiating with local, state, and federal officials. Representative Jan Meyers, Senator Nancy Kassebaum, Governor John Carlin, and Mayor Jack Reardon were among the public officials who have joined Dole in working to convince GM to locate the plant in Kansas City.

In several recent meetings with General Motors Chairman Roger Smith, Senator Dole has stressed the positive business environment and productive work force of the Kansas City area. Dole has also been working to alleviate possible environmental problems that could have arisen during the transition and construction period at the new plant.

The new GM facility will mean increased employment for the Kansas City area, due in large part to new supplier and support operations that will be created, although there may be slightly fewer workers actually employed at the new plant itself than were employed at the old facility.