

## Electric Vehicle Manufacturer Chooses Will County

The Lion Electric Company will bring vehicle manufacturing to Joliet, creating 1,400 jobs at first U.S. facility.

**Will County, Illinois (May 7, 2021)** – The Lion Electric company, an innovative manufacturer of zero-emission vehicles headquartered in Canada, announced today it will lease a 900,000 square foot speculative building at 3835 Youngs Road in Joliet’s Clarius Park. The Will County facility will be Lion’s first U.S.- based location.

Lion is an industry leader in the design, development, manufacturing, and distribution of purpose-built all-electric mid-range trucks and buses. The new facility will allow for further product expansion to meet consumer demands sparked by increasing concern for the environment. The state-of-the-art facility is slated to begin operation in fourth quarter 2021 and could produce in excess of 20,000 vehicles per year.

The State’s announcement about Lion marks a milestone for the region, bringing the end-to-end manufacturing of vehicles back to Joliet, creating jobs for local trades during construction, and more than 1,400 permanent jobs within a few years of operation. By choosing Will County, Lion also creates capacity for the region to meet growing demand with a manufacturing footprint in closer proximity to both customers and suppliers.

“Will County has a proud heritage of manufacturing in a broad range of industries and projects like Lion Electric will help ensure that manufacturing will be part of our future,” noted Doug Pryor, Vice President of Economic Development for the Will County Center for Economic Development.

The CED assisted Lion throughout the site selection process and worked closely with the City of Joliet, Intersect Illinois, the Governor’s Office, and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to help bring the project to fruition.

Pryor added, “I want to thank the leadership at Lion Electric and their consultants. They have been spectacular to work with throughout this process, and we are proud to continue with Lion as partners in Will County throughout their development and operations.”

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### **About the CED**

The Will County Center for Economic Development is a private non-profit development corporation whose mission is the retention and expansion of existing companies and the recruitment of new companies to Will County.

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