

Barnes Campaign: Mandela Barnes stands with UAW Local 578

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On Saturday, Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes, candidate for U.S. Senate, stood with UAW Local 578 to call on Oshkosh Defense to create 1,000 good-paying union jobs in Wisconsin by building the next generation of USPS trucks in Oshkosh.

Watch his remarks [here](#).

In the fight to bring 1,000 union jobs to Wisconsin, Mandela Barnes also:

- [Stood with UAW Local 578 members and spoke at a rally](#) in Oshkosh calling for the creation of 1,000 union jobs.
- [Sent a letter to President Biden and Congress](#) asking them to do everything in their power to reverse Oshkosh Defense's decision to use non-union labor in South Carolina.
- [Sent a letter to Oshkosh Defense's CEO and Board of Directors](#) calling on them to reverse their decision.
- Held a [press conference](#) publicly urging Oshkosh Defense to respond to Ron Johnson's [refusal to fight for](#) 1,000 good-paying union jobs for Wisconsinites.

WBAY: [Union rallies outside Oshkosh Corp, demands postal trucks be built](#)

[in Wisconsin](#)

Union workers rally Saturday afternoon, asking the Oshkosh Corporation to build Next Generation Delivery Vehicles for the US Postal Service in Wisconsin, rather than at a site in South Carolina.

About a thousand jobs are also at stake.

In the shadow of the corporate headquarters of Oshkosh Corporation hundreds of union workers held up signs demanding that the company reverse a decision made last summer regarding production.

“The frustrating part is that Oshkosh isn’t doing the right thing. They were awarded this contract on the back of our workers. We are known for our quality work, our top of the line vehicles. We make them durable, reliable and we deliver on time,” said Tim Jacobson, Chief Steward, UAW Local 578.

The site in Spartanburg, will be 900,000 square feet, and is more than twice the size of any facility in Oshkosh according to the company.

Right now, work is underway to prepare the building for production, and the hiring process has also started.

Still, many politicians like Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes are demanding answers as to why Wisconsin wasn’t selected.

“UAW workers have been making the best quality trucks here in Oshkosh for over 80 years and that is a legacy worth fighting for,” Barnes told the crowd.

[...]

Union leaders say they have no plans to give up.

“Is there any chance for these vehicles to be built in Oshkosh still,” Action 2 News asked Bob Lynk, President of UAW Local 578. He replied, “I believe there is. If we can’t get it all I want some of it here. It’s the right thing to do.”

Jacobson added, “We can build those in our facilities we have now. They talk about capacity, being over capacity. We are not running three shifts in our facilities. We are not even working forty hours in some of our facilities. We do have the capacity.

We do have the space, and if they need to hire we can find workers here in this great state.”