



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From Horsepower to Megawatts: Viridi breathes new life into 100-year-old Buffalo manufacturing plant, once home to Chevrolet assembly line.

BUFFALO, NY– On August 13, 1923, General Motors began assembling Chevrolets at 1001 East Delavan Avenue, located on Buffalo’s Eastside. At the time, Buffalo was the 11th largest city in the United States, with a population of over half a million residents. Economic growth and expansion were significant factors in the city’s development during this period.

Following GM, American Axle purchased the plant in 1994 and manufactured auto parts until its abrupt closing in 2007. However, today, the former General Motors plant is home to OSC Manufacturing & Equipment Services, Viridi, and several community organizations, which have injected new life into the 42-acre property.

“Deindustrialization and disinvestment have occurred on the Eastside of Buffalo for the last 50 years and this property is an exact reflection of Buffalo’s past, present, and future. 1001 East Delavan was once an economic driver, and I believe we can replicate that. We have an obligation as community members and business leaders to bring economic opportunities back to this community,” stated Jon M. Williams, CEO of Viridi.

Viridi, 1001 East Delavan’s newest tenant, is the catalyst responsible for invigorating the Eastside property. With a workforce of over 150 employees, Viridi is projected to increase staff levels to approximately 500 employees. It is worth noting that 78% of Viridi’s production position applicants are located within the four zip codes that surround the plant.

As we close in on celebrating 100 years in the community at 1001 E. Delavan Ave., I’ve had the unique ability of my district office being a neighbor for 20 years – I remember watching GM and American Axle leave, the facility shuttered, and the monsoon of uncertainty that washed over affected households. Now, I’m watching Jon Williams’ and his team’s vision breathe new life, investment, and activity into the site. Employees are thrilled with the ability of being able to walk to work from adjacent neighborhoods and disrupting a major industry. With the continued advancement of our green economy, I believe that Viridi is well-positioned to be a community anchor, resource, and employer for what we hope will be another 100 years,” commented NYS Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes.



Viridi is not only committed to revitalizing the site but hiring people from the surrounding community. They have teamed up with GreenForce Training, which handles recruitment, training, support, and retention efforts for entry level jobs at Viridi.

Congressman Brian Higgins said, “For 100 years this site has been at the forefront of American manufacturing and a homebase to the hardworking people of Western New York. Viridi has remade this location to meet the needs of today and tomorrow, providing job opportunities that recruit from surrounding neighborhoods through its partnership with GreenForce, and positioning Buffalo to be a global leader in clean energy manufacturing. We look forward to seeing this be a place of growth and opportunity for generations to come.”

This exciting development is a testament to the resilience and ingenuity of the Buffalo community. The revitalization of the Eastside property provides a boost to the local economy and offers job opportunities to the surrounding community.

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About Viridi: Viridi designs and builds battery systems that are redefining energy storage and powering the transition to renewable energy. Its innovative, fail-safe battery systems bring on-demand, affordable power wherever it is needed, replacing applications that have been historically dominated by fossil fuel energy sources. Viridi’s fail-safe point-of-use energy storage is safe, reliable, scalable, and affordable for use in industrial, medical, commercial, municipal, and residential building applications. Learn more at: www.viridiparente.com.

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