

GREEDY CORPORATIONS ARE PAYING OFF* LEGISLATORS TO APPROVE THE USE OF AUTONO-MOUS DELIVERY 'ROBOTS' ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS AND BIKE PATHS.

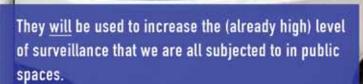
THESE MACHINES WILL TAKE
JOBS AWAY FROM HUMANS,
AND MAKE OUR PUBLIC
SIDEWALKS AND BIKE LANES
MORE DANGEROUS.

* I don't have any direct evidence that these legislators (mostly Republicans, in the USA) are being paid off, but - honestly - how likely is it that there isn't some kind of financial incentive for them to support this?

An autonomous machine done stole my goddamn job and then it ran over my toe; I tell you these marauding delivery machines have really, really got to go...

Along with the increased unemployment, the loss of safety, and the impacts on the general quality of life on our public streets, it's important to note that these machines are covered with cameras.

Selling their surveillance capabilities will be "An extra income stream" for the people who run the machines:





Unauthorized Audio Platforms

Old music players with speakers can be had for a few dollars at thrift stores and yard sales. A CD or cassette of information about the problems with these machines could be attached with duct tape on and set to play, turning the machines into Roving Educational Platforms.





MACHINES?

More work done by machines means more poor, unemployed humans.

No matter how regressive and inadequate they may be, 'gig economy' jobs - like delivering things - do. at least, allow people to survive.

When you say Hello to machines, you say Goodbye to jobs for human beings.

The proliferation of machines on sidewalks and in bike lanes will endanger pedestrians and cyclists. Pennsylvania law allows the machines to weigh up to 550 pounds without eargo; to travel on sidewalks at 12 mph, and in bike lanes at 25 mph, and legally classifies them as pedestrians!

The legislation that gives the machines legal access to sidewalks and bike lanes is also part of the long-term tendency toward the 'enclosure of the commons': the privatization of public space by the wealthy and powerful few, against the interests of the rest of us.

WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN IF A LARGE
CARDBOARD BOX
WAS DROPPED ON
TOP OF ONE OF
THESE MACHINES?

OR OTHER THINGS; LIKE LARGE TARPS -THAT ARE EASY TO FIND IN DUMPSTERS



Proposal: turn machines into Mobile "Free Speech Zones"

Remember when everywhere was a Free Speech Zone? Let's use delivery machines as roving platforms for public speakers - or poets, or singers, or... With some cooperation from audiences, the machines could be kept in one location, or orators/performers with good balance could speak/sing/recite on the move.



A Few Thoughts on General Strategies and Tactics:

The problem with human-izing these machines

It's tempting to put signs with statements like "Get out of my way: can't you see I'm busy stealing jobs from humans?" on these machines, but I think this would be a mistake.

We've been conditioned by movies and televison to view "intelligent" machines as either:

- destructive threats to human existence, or else as
- adorable, friendly, helpful, anthropomorphised little pals.

Since the designers of the physical appearance of these machines are probably not going to go for the Killer Robot look, I think some people will have a tendency (with or without realizing that they're doing it) to see the machines as conscious beings.

Any attempts to get people thinking about the implications of these machines will be weakened by any tactics that feed into anthropomorphisation, so it's better to avoid this.

The use of the word 'robot' is more complicated, because it has both positive and negative associations, but I think it is so associated with 'consciousness' in the popular imagination that I avoid using it in any of the text-based interventions proposed here. You'll see that I call them "Machines" in all of these proposals.



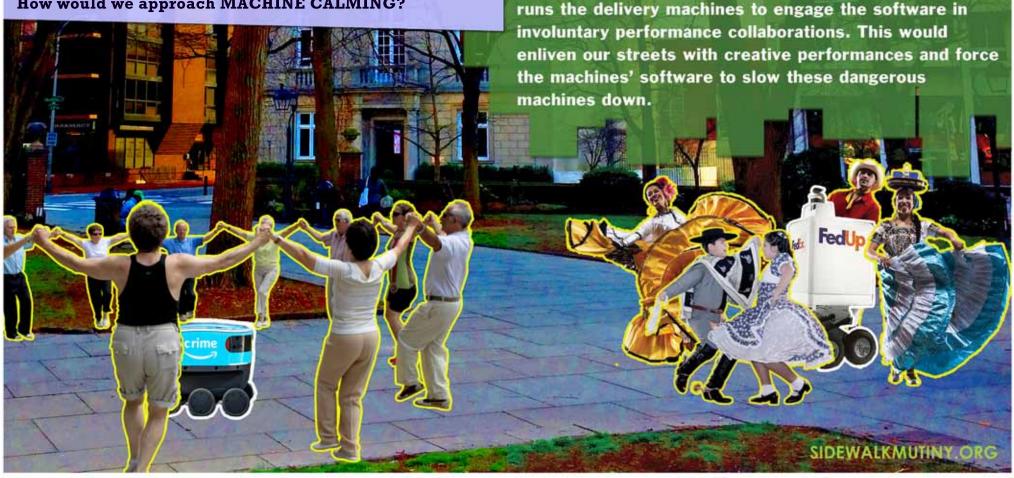
TAPAS: TEMPORARY ADVERSARIAL PERFORMANCE

use the crash-avoidance features of the software that

ART SITUATIONS in which dancers and other performers

Traffic Calming is the rethinking of automobile-centric public spaces; to create safer, healthier spaces that focus on the needs of humans (and non-human animals) rather than cars.

How would we approach MACHINE CALMING?





Autonomous Roving Billboards



Whose fu@king sidewalks?

If the corporations and their pet legislators have their way, the delivery/surveillance machines will own the sidewalks.

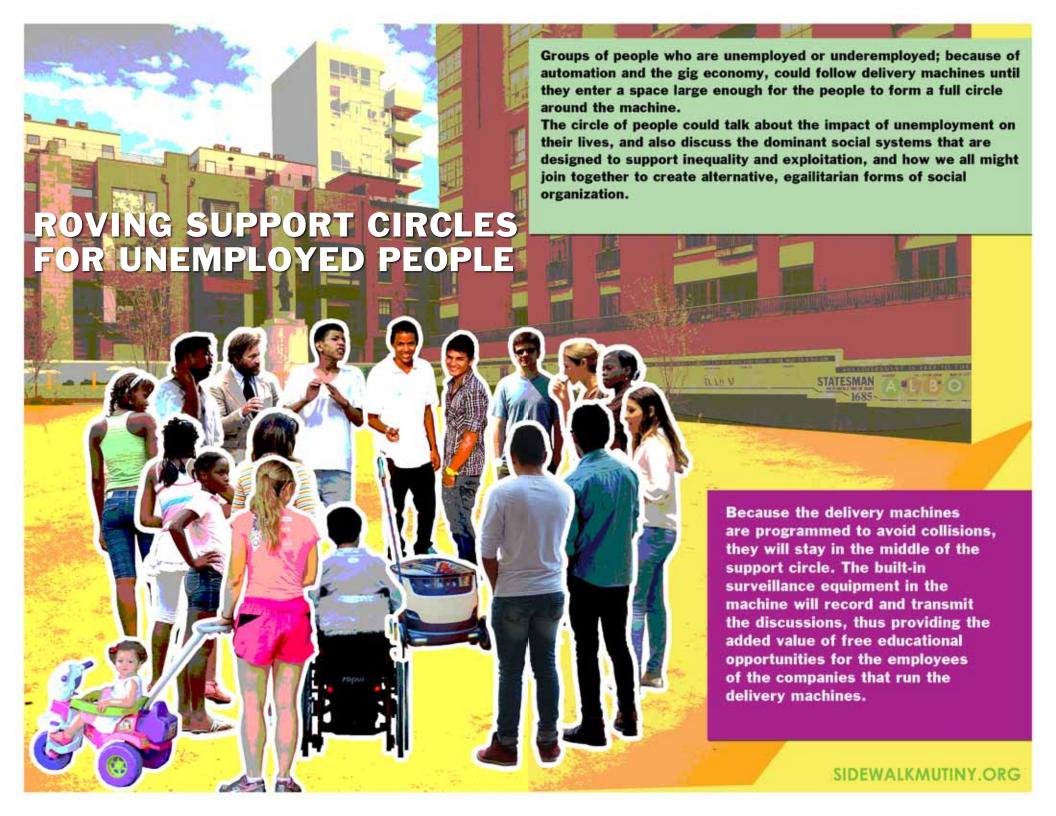
And you? You'd better get the hell out of the way.

Remember:

There are cardboard boxes everywhere.

Just add:

- Some sticker paper or regular paper and some tape.
- & A printer/copier, or some markers, for your text.
- + Some duct tape to secure your new billboards to the space-invading machines,
- & Your thoughts about a system that ALWAYS values money and power for the few over peace, security and happiness for the rest of us.



Here are a few more possible tactics.

What can you come up with?

DISGUSTING!

You can help to make it clear just how disgusting these machines are, using 'Propaganda by **Decoration'**

Fake vomit, poop, and cockroaches are easy to buy - or make - and will definitely get a response from passersby.

What else could we use to do this?

What kinds of

SPORTS & GAMES

can the machines be used for?

POSSIBLE POSITIVE USES?

In a better world - when we've moved beyond bosses and wages and 'employment', perhaps these machines will be used for the benefit of all of us, and not just to enrich the greedy few. If they could be made in nonenvironmentally-destructive ways, they could be used in situations where it's difficult, or unpleasant, or just undesirable for humans to do the things that they can do.







FedUp

- (2): a union member who refuses to strike or returns to work before a strike has ended (3) : a union memoer who refuses to strike or returns to work before a strike has e (4) : a worker who accepts employment or replaces a union worker during a strike (4) : one who works for less than union wages or on nonunion terms

I'm guessing that the people who run the corporations that are working on filling our sidewalks with these dangerous machines will not be super-enthusiastic about these proposals.

I'm an artist who enjoys coming up with fun, creative responses to social issues, with the hope that the proposals will spark thought, discussion and action.

I don't know how legal or illegal the things that I'm proposing would be, if people decided to do any of them, so - investigate and proceed at your own risk!



What about bike lanes?

I have focused on sidewalk actions because cyclists in bike lanes are already dealing with being menaced by cars, and any actions might increase those risks.

If you can figure out safe ways to act against machines in bike lanes, that would be great!



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