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[Automotive News' Larry Vellequette recently noted a number of changes to Chrysler's product plans](#) , as told by CEO Sergio Marchionne in a speech last week and in an interview with *Auto mobile* magazine.

The plan for 2014 is to drop the [Jeep Compass](#) and replace the Chrysler Town & Country minivan with a crossover; the [Dodge Caravan](#) will be the company's only minivan. While retail sales of the Town & Country are higher than those of Caravan, that might be a factor of the price points; the best selling [minivans](#)

are in the Town & Country's price range. Moving to a single minivan was part of the 2009 product plan.

The company might still field a vehicle under the Town & Country name, but it would be a crossover, rumored to be similar to the now-dead Mercedes R Class; some believed it would more closely resemble the Chrysler Pacifica, which was reportedly abandoned to allow contract manufacturing of the Volkswagen Routan.

In August 2014, according to Marchionne, the [Compass](#) will be replaced by an unspecified vehicle; he did not mention Patriot's future after that point. Word from the plant had been that the Patriot would be dropped earlier. The same plant makes the

[Dodge Dart](#)

. Given the similarity of the forthcoming

[Jeep Liberty](#)

/Cherokee replacement, the company might not be doing another

[Compass](#)

/Patriot sized

[Jeep](#)

, but replacing them with a Dart hatchback or wagon, and a coupe. These would, in the context of

[Belvidere](#)

production, be replacements for

[Compass](#)

and Patriot.

A [Dodge Dart](#) -based [SRT4](#) is definitely under way, with power (and possibly engine choice) still undecided, which implies that production is a good ways off.

Hybrid and CNG vehicles are planned for sale "by 2017," in addition to the CNG-powered [2013 Ram](#)

for fleets. An electric

[Fiat 500](#)

is planned for sale later this year, sold at a loss, to comply with some states' requirements and provide experience in engineering electric cars. Ford is reportedly content to use Magna as an electric-car contractor.