

For Immediate Release



Media Contact:

Nick Benson
Deputy Communications Director
nbenson@dcas.nyc.gov
646-832-6533

DCAS to Expand Use of 99% Petroleum-Free Renewable Diesel in City Vehicles

City Aims to Phase Out Use of Traditional Diesel Fuel

NEW YORK – The NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) today announced that it will expand use of renewable diesel fuel, a 99% petroleum-free alternative to traditional diesel fuel. The fuel reduces CO2 emissions by 65% compared to the petroleum-based version. This move is part of the City's efforts to phase out its use of regular diesel.

The City plans to bid a long-term contract to purchase renewable diesel following a successful six-month demonstration period in which the City tested nearly one million gallons of renewable diesel in City fleet vehicles. Each year, City fleet units use up to 17 million gallons of diesel that could be displaced through this initiative.

"The climate crisis is real and it's urgent, and that is why the City of New York is leading the way on reducing carbon emissions," said **Lisette Camilo, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services**. "Renewable diesel is 99% petroleum-free and helps keep fossil fuels in the ground and emissions out of our air."

"Every time we choose to reinforce our reliance on fossil fuels for transportation, we choose to pollute our air and accelerate the current climate crisis," said **Mark Chambers, Director of the Mayor's Office of Sustainability**. "By transitioning away from traditional fuels and focusing on clean, effective alternatives like renewable diesel, New York City is prioritizing the health of our communities and choosing better for our shared planet."

Made from animal fat, soybeans, and other organic material, renewable diesel works in traditional diesel-powered vehicles. It can be used as a complete replacement for traditional diesel fuel as well as in blends with regular diesel fuel. During the recent demonstration period, this greener alternative fuel powered garbage trucks, Parks Department equipment, Department of Correction buses, NYPD emergency service units, and other heavy and specialized fleet units. NYC operates almost 13,000 diesel trucks and off-road equipment pieces that will benefit from this implementation. The emissions reductions achieved during this period is equal to removing trucks driving three million miles on New York City's streets.

"NYC has demonstrated over 12 years of leadership in biodiesel implementation in fleet and buildings," said **Keith Kerman, NYC Chief Fleet Officer and DCAS Deputy Commissioner**. "Renewable diesel is the next step in our efforts to replace traditional fossil fuels. This summer's initial program was successful and the fuel proved fully compatible with our existing trucks and storage tanks."

The use of renewable diesel builds upon the City's success using biodiesel. City fleet units currently use biodiesel in blends of 5 to 20 percent at all City agencies and for all diesel-powered equipment. Renewable diesel is a complement to the City's longtime leadership in biodiesel use and will be implemented in conjunction with biodiesel efforts. Biodiesel and renewable diesel will help the City phase out use of traditional diesel fuel.

Under Mayor de Blasio's NYC Clean Fleet initiative, NYC is leading in alternative fuel implementation. In addition to biofuels, NYC now operates 1,700 on-road electric vehicles, nearly 6,000 hybrid units, solar-powered units, and natural gas-powered fleet units.

This initiative is part of Mayor Bill de Blasio's historic commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in New York City by at least 80% by 2050 (80 x 50).

About DCAS

The Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) ensures that all City agencies have the critical resources and support needed to provide the best possible services to the public. It does this by working with City agencies on recruiting, hiring, and training; providing facilities management for 55 public buildings; purchasing, selling, and leasing City property; purchasing annually more than \$1 billion in supplies and equipment; and implementing conservation and safety programs throughout the City's facilities and vehicle fleet.