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NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY SUPPORTS NYC EV EFFORTS

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For the third straight year, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) has implemented a grant with NYC Fleet to support the City's electric vehicle (EV) implementation. In FY12 and FY13, NYPA dedicated funds to offset the additional costs for EV plug in units. Fleet used those funds to procure even more EV vehicles.

In the newest agreement, NYPA has agreed to offset the costs for operating the City's Chargepoint network of 160 EV chargers. By the end of 2014, this network will be close to 200 units. New York City's fleet agencies operate the largest single EV charging network in NY State and we use Chargepoint for these services. NYPA has agreed to offset the Chargepoint costs for each of the next five years.

The Chargepoint network enables fleet to track electric usage per vehicle for the City's plug in units and to assist inter-agency sharing of network chargers. The network can also help us identify use patterns for dual fuel plug in units like the GM Volt or Plug in Toyota Prius units which can fuel on electricity or gas.

NYC operates one of the nation's largest plug in fleets with 709 total units including sedans, vans, scooters, transport carts, and forklifts. We currently have 63 new EV plug in units arriving now for use at agencies including Parks, Education, and Design and Construction, along with 40 more charging stations.

Many thanks to everyone at NYPA for their support, especially John Markowitz who has coordinated these efforts. Thanks also to NYPA for allowing Fleet at DCAS to present on the City's EV efforts to the National Electric Transportation Infrastructure Working Council (IWC) on June 19 in White Plains.



SPOTLIGHT: DOT HORTICULTURAL SHOP

ARMENOUSH ASLANIAN-PERSICO



NYC's Fleet of 27,000 vehicles is well known. Less well known is that the City maintains over 14,000 additional horticultural, 2 and 4 cycle, equipment units and other fleet components. Critical to this effort is DOT's Horticultural Shop in Rosedale, Queens.

The DOT shop maintains 1,200 items of equipment for year-round road operations. This equipment includes grass-cutting and forestry units such as tractors, lawnmowers, weed whackers, chainsaws, and wood chippers. The shop also services snow removal equipment including plows, snow blowers, and salt spreaders, and road repair and paving equipment such as cement mixers, wet saws, jackhammers, portable asphalt rollers, tampers, hot mix asphalt trailers called hot boxes, paint sprayers, and water pumps.

The unit is responsible for DOT's light towers and generators which make night construction work possible. On September 11, 2001 the shop sprang into action making sure that all DOT light towers and generators were fully operational for use at Ground Zero. This equipment was instrumental in the search and recovery effort.

DOT operations citywide use this equipment along streets, highways, bridges, and ferry terminals. Among the many unique fleet pieces is a triple-flail 4-wheel drive grass-cutting mower, which has three mowers attached to one tractor and cuts an 18-foot span of grass. These operations help keep streets safe by addressing visibility issues caused by high grass.

Bill McDonough is one of the six mechanics who work at the shop along with an auto service worker and a supervisor. Bill has been at the shop since he helped found it in 1981, when these operations were brought over to DOT from Parks. Much of the equipment is motorized and includes hydraulic and electronic systems. Bill and his team are especially trained in these repairs. The team also makes road calls to repair equipment on site. We appreciate the important work done by Bill and the crew at the DOT Horticultural Shop, and we congratulate Bill on his retirement this week.