



Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner
Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

ISSUE 63

TRUCK SAFETY TASK FORCE KICKOFF MEETING

On September 23, 2014, NYCDOT and DCAS convened a kickoff meeting for the Vision Zero Truck Safety Task Force at DOT Headquarters in downtown Manhattan. The aim of the task force is to bring together major stakeholders including private and public fleets, government, and labor to develop strategies and programs to improve traffic safety. Participants in the task force meeting included Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, NYS Department of Motor Vehicles, NYSDOT Motor Carrier Compliance Bureau, NYSDOT Truck and Motor Carrier Safety, NYS Motor Truck Association (NYSMTA), the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, NYPD, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Joint Council 16, Teamsters Local 282 and CUNY.

Kendra Hems, President of NYS Motor Truck Association gave a presentation on the Truck Blind Spot Training Program, a partnership between NYCDOT and the trucking industry which has trained over 3,800 pedestrians and cyclists about truck blind spots since 2011. NYSMTA also highlighted successful company and truck driver recognition programs and training.

NYCDOT Director of Strategic Initiatives, Juan Martinez gave the group an overview of the Vision Zero plan and an analysis of truck collisions in New York. DCAS Deputy Commissioner Keith Kerman presented on the Safe Fleet Transition Plan being developed for the City's fleet including research on truck side guards. Stacey Hodge, Director of NYCDOT Office of Freight Mobility facilitated the working group discussions and announced that the NYC truck route map is currently being redesigned to be a more effective routing tool.

Critical themes of the meeting included the need to recognize operators and fleets leading in safety, and linking safety education campaigns to high visibility enforcement initiatives. Working groups have been established to develop a formal plan for action on public outreach, incentive programs, piloting safety measures, and crash data coordination. The Truck Safety Task Force will reconvene at the Vision Zero Fleets Safety Forum at Queens Theatre on October 23, 2014, which will bring together a larger network of fleets, agencies, and vendors to discuss best practices and emerging trends in safety. Thanks to everyone who participated, and we look forward to seeing you on October 23.



MAHANTH S. JOISHY

FLEET SPOTLIGHT: SANDRA FERRARA, DEP

ARMENOUSH ASLANIAN-PERSICO



New Yorkers depend on fleet services for almost all aspects of daily life including water and sewer services provided through DEP. In addition to our trained technical repair and towing staff, a team of administrative and support staff manage functions behind the scenes and are critical to these efforts. At DEP Fleet Services, one of these employees is Bureau Administrator Sandra Ferrara.

Sandra is involved in every stage of vehicle life from procurement to salvage for 2,200 units. She manages DEP's budget for vehicle expenses, including new vehicles and repairs. She processes all repair requests from the agency's shop locations, distributes the work requests to NYPD, DSNY, or vendors, and monitors the repairs. Additionally, Sandra has been involved in DEP's fleet consolidation since its early stages. She also manages DEP vehicles in Fast Fleet, the citywide fleet share program, as well as personnel and timekeeping for fleet staff.

Sandra first joined DEP in 1984 and is celebrating her 30th year with the agency. She describes the work as enjoyable because it is "fast-paced and hands-on." She also describes the environment as supportive, saying, "I have fantastic coworkers. They are like a family." Sandra lives in New York and has two children. Thanks to Sandra for all her commitment during this period of major change and innovation in fleet.