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WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

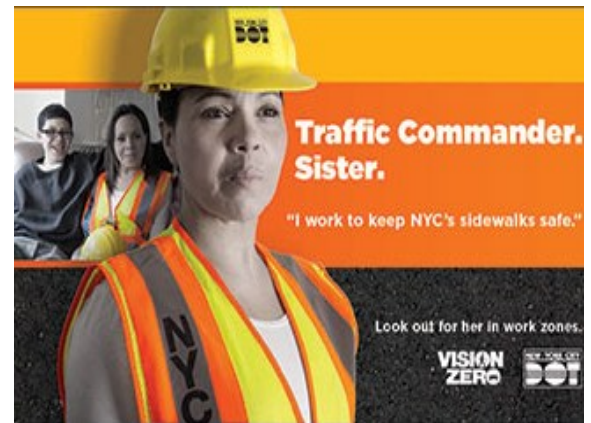
U.S. DOT and the Federal Highway Administration have designated this week as National Work Zone Awareness Week. As part of Vision Zero, NYC DOT is leading the campaign for the Big Apple, and has been working to raise driver awareness and decrease the number of persons injured or killed in vehicle collisions in work zones.

Crews of city workers and private contractors work hard to keep our city running 24/7. Every day, hundreds of crews are repairing roadways, water mains, power lines and electrical service, or maintaining trees and Greenstreets. Often, these crews must perform these critical and difficult assignments while adjacent to or in the midst of on-going traffic on City streets.

Drivers should be aware at all times of work zones and precautions must be taken including reduced speed, dedicating full attention to the roadway, and keeping an eye out for both workers and equipment.

On average, 6,000 work zone fatalities and 32,000 work zone injuries occur every year nationwide. In NYC, 7 DOT workers have died in work zone collisions in the last two decades.

City fleet operators must set an example in taking care of our own. Please use care and caution on the road. Help spread the Work Zone Awareness Week message among colleagues, friends, and family members.



FLEET SPOTLIGHT: JOMAR PICHARDO OF FDNY

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

Jomar Pichardo is a Senior Auto Service Worker (SASW) at FDNY Review Avenue Shop, and has been with FDNY for three years. He is currently in the final stages in the process to receive a promotion to Auto Mechanic, and works on “anything electrical as far as this shop goes.”

Some of Jomar’s projects are on the cutting edge of sustainable technology and also help the City save money. He has taken the lead on designing and maintaining the prototype FDNY ambulance using Stealth anti-idling technology, allowing FDNY medics to shut off the ambulance engine and still keep all of the on-board equipment running.

Jomar also configured a unique electrical charging station at Review Avenue that keeps automotive batteries for sedans, SUVs, and other types of vehicles recharged and working instead of requiring disposal. He oversees “float charging” at the station that helps extend automotive battery life by up to ten years.

Prior to FDNY, Jomar spent five years in private sector shops where he sharpened his electrical and diagnostics skills, and repaired vehicle engines. Born and raised in New York, he now lives with his family in Carmel NY. He can’t stop working on electronics when he gets home, though he also enjoys hunting and chopping wood. Thanks and congratulations to Jomar.

