



Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Lisette Camilo, DCAS Commissioner
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NYC CELEBRATES CAR-FREE EARTH DAY ON APRIL 22

MAHANTH S. JOISHY



Earth Day was on Friday, April 22 this year and celebrated around the world as a way to focus attention on sustainability. Here in New York City, the administration worked with NYC Council Transportation Chair Ydanis Rodriguez to encourage all New Yorkers to go car-free. Several streets, including Broadway between the Flatiron Building and Union Square, and Wadsworth Ave. between 173rd and 177th Streets, were shut to automobiles for the day.

Fleet agencies did their part as well to reduce traffic and emissions with messaging campaigns and actions. Parks made extra use of bicycles and electric carts on Earth Day. The SCOUT unit at Operations, City Council, Consumer Affairs,

DCAS, FISA, Probation, Manhattan Borough President's Office, Comptroller, and many other agencies grounded a significant number of non-essential vehicles for the day and encouraged staff to use alternative modes of transportation such as walking, biking, and public transport. DEP set up shuttles between major locations to reduce vehicle use. Several DSNY automotive staff biked to work, including some from Staten Island all the way to Central Repair Shop (CRS) in Maspeth Queens, an activity they do every day not just Earth Day.

Thanks to everyone who got in the spirit of car free Earth Day and for all your continuing help in reducing vehicle use and emissions every day. Keep it up.

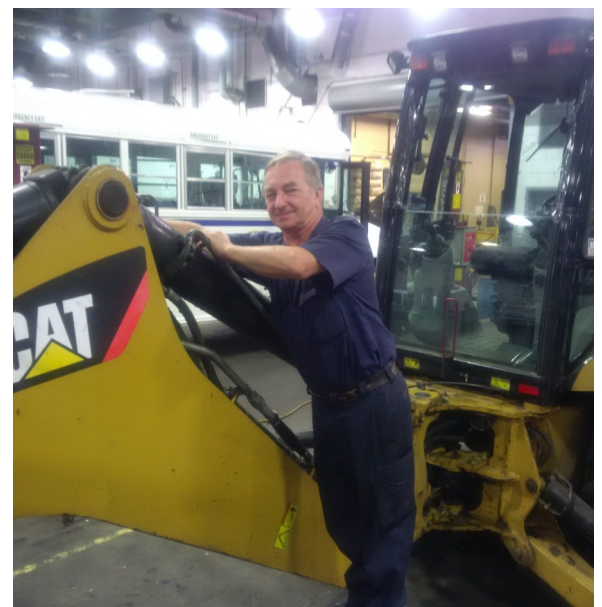
FLEET SPOTLIGHT: CHRIS MURJAS OF CORRECTION

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

Christopher Murjas is an Auto Mechanic at the DOC Fleet Services facility on Rikers Island. He has been with the City for 8 years, and takes care of every type of light and heavy duty equipment in the fleet. DOC maintains more than 500 vehicles, including over 100 inmate transport buses, agricultural equipment, and enforcement units. Chris has become especially adept at diagnosing and repairing the buses, which are the most important and visible part of the fleet. He also repairs the electrical components on buses and other vehicles.

Prior to DOC, Chris worked for 8 years at an area PEP Boys garage as a mechanic focused on light and medium duty vehicles. He brought many of the skills he learned in the private sector to the job at DOC.

Chris was raised in Queens and lives in Jackson Heights. He is married with three children. While off duty he finds it relaxing to work on his garden at home and search for good restaurants in Jackson Heights.



DOC Director of Fleet Services Richard Fosbeck has called Chris one of "the best all-around mechanics at DOC." Chris has earned a reputation for getting the job done, and we thank and congratulate him for his service.