

Safe Fleet Operation, Every Minute and Every Mile

By Keith T. Kerman



DCAS is one of the original members of the Vision Zero Task Force, working to improve operator training and redesign vehicles for safety since 2014. We have made a lot of progress: training over 120,000, leading the nation in intelligent speed assistance (ISA), truck sideguards, telematics, and truck surround cameras.

With all that, there is much more to do. A city vehicle and a contracted school bus have already been involved in fatal events in 2026. We had a near miss last

week. Each crash raises different issues and each challenges us to do better. With that in mind, some reminders for all fleet operators as we work to advance Vision Zero:

1. **Slow down:** While every crash and incident is unique, driving and turn speed often plays a role. Slow and cautious driving at all times is the most important step we can take. Fast turns and cornering can kill.
2. **Sun glare is a serious driving risk:** Sun glare can emerge suddenly to impede a driver's visibility. If glare impacts your driving, slow down immediately. Use the blinders to shield your vision. Consider travelling with shades or sunglasses in the car.
3. **Recognize visual obstructions when operating cars and trucks:** All vehicles have blind spots. On conventionally designed trucks, with the engine in front of the driver, the obstruction can be 15 to 20 feet. These blind spots place pedestrians at risk, especially during turns. DCAS is working with agencies to install surround cameras on trucks. Over 2,000 trucks have them now with nearly 1,000 more on order. Drivers must use mirrors and cameras to mitigate these blind spots. Take time to understand the blind spots with the vehicles you are operating and test the cameras and mirrors.
4. **Don't block bus lanes:** The [MTA's Automated Bus Enforcement \(ACE\)](#) program works to maintain fast and safe public bus transportation. The program applies to city vehicles. Don't drive, stand or park in a bus lane. Don't stand or stop in a bus stop; double park along a bus route, or wait for passengers in a bus stop or bus lane. If you must operate in a bus lane to perform repair or other essential agency work, notify your transportation coordinator to help coordinate with other agencies.
5. **Avoid Unnecessary Driving:** The safest vehicle trip on the road is one you don't take. If there are opportunities to use public transportation, carpool, or meet online, take advantage. Agencies must also work with DCAS to limit commuting with city vehicles to only assignments that are operationally essential and unavoidable.
6. **Wear your seatbelt:** This seems obvious but is still a challenge for some operators. You are not the only vehicle on the road and other drivers will make mistakes or poor choices. Even if you are in a large truck or SUV, its size alone cannot save you from another driver's reckless decisions. Your seatbelt could be what saves your life. Put it on, keep it on, and make sure others in your vehicle do the same.



DCAS offers safe driver training for all fleet operators, school bus drivers, and now city contract fleet operators:

Information for city vehicle drivers: [Fleet Training - Department of Citywide Administrative Services](#)

Defensive driving for NYC contracted fleets:
<https://lms.ntsi.com/registration/DCASCC-NYOLDDC>

Defensive driving for NYC's school bus fleet:
<https://lms.ntsi.com/registration/DCASSB-NYOLDDC>

City fleet and school buses operate hundreds of millions of miles per year. **We ask all operators to commit themselves to slow and cautious driving, every minute and every mile.**



This show highlights vendors who support the New York City's Clean Fleet and Vision Zero initiatives, and daily operations. Vendors will offer a wide array of products to improve vehicle safety. The show will also highlight vehicles and equipment with alternative fuels and emissions-reducing technologies, along with the latest in light and heavy-duty vehicles, trucks, horticultural equipment, tools, fleet services, and more!

**Thursday,
May 21, 2026
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Accessibility Questions?
Contact DCAS Accessibility
at 212-386-0256, or email
accessibility@dcas.nyc.gov
by May 6, 2025



[https://www.nyc.gov/
site/dcas/agencies/
nyc-fleet-upcoming-
events.page](https://www.nyc.gov/site/dcas/agencies/nyc-fleet-upcoming-events.page)

37th Annual Equipment & Vehicle Show

Flushing Meadows Corona Park
(by the Unisphere), Queens, NY





[Rate Your Plate Nutrition Campaign | Starts March 9](#): March is National Nutrition Month with WorkWell NYC's Rate Your Plate Nutrition Campaign!

For 10 days, you'll get nutrition info, trivia, and tips for healthy eating.

Learn how to serve up a balanced meal like a pro! [Register here](#).

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 525, February 27, 2026](#): NYC's Plow and Emergency Trucks Powered by Renewable Fuel

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 524, February 19, 2026](#): Fleet Sustainability in Action, Local Law 75 Report

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 523, February 12, 2026](#): Fleet Spotlight: Central Park Medical Unit (CPMU)

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