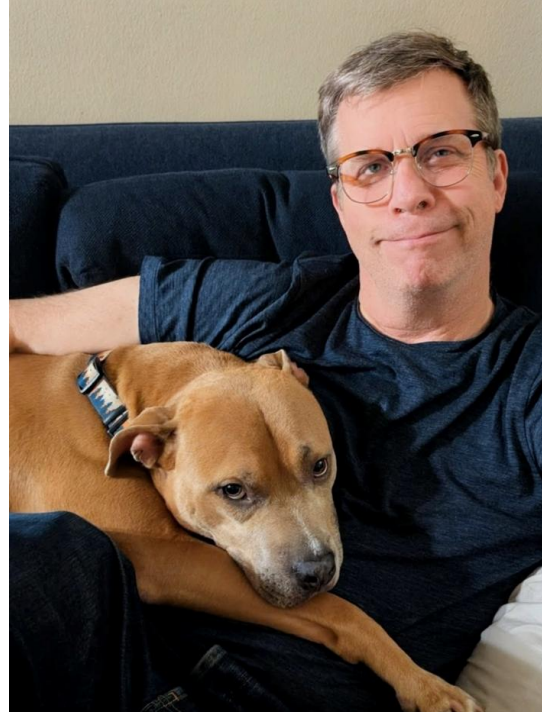

Fleet Spotlight: Bob Groppe, Homeless Fleet and Support Services

By Keith T. Kerman and Destiny Fierro



This week, we spotlight Bob Groppe, the Associate Commissioner of Support Services, including fleet, at the Department of Homeless Services (DHS).

Bob started at DHS in 2017, but his career in city government goes back over 36 years. In 1989, he got his Master's Degree from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. He was hired as a LaGuardia Fellow in NYC government, which is similar to today's Urban Fellows program. His first assignment was to take and process applications for public assistance. He then worked on audits at HRA, at the Mayor's Office of Operations, then at OMB, as Capital Projects Director at DEP, and then in the same role at DCAS. He left to work at Columbia University, then returned to DEP and finally arrived at DHS.



Bob oversees DHS's leased spaces, including DHS headquarters, fleet headquarters, and the storehouse. Overseeing the storehouse is a main part of his job, since the space is very large and holds many materials, including plywood, flooring, plumbing supplies, and HVAC supplies, needed to operate and maintain the shelters. Without the procurement of these supplies, DHS is not able to properly service and support the city's homeless population.

Of equal importance to DCAS is his work in fleet. DHS has 144 vehicles, including a large van and bus fleet that support homeless transport and services, as well as a light-duty fleet used by agency social workers. When Bob joined DHS, the fleet was aging and in poor condition, and it was facing major challenges in procuring replacement vehicles.

Recognizing the urgency, Bob initiated a partnership with DCAS, taking the necessary steps to secure new vehicles and align DHS with DCAS's goal of electrifying the municipal fleet under Local Law 140. Since 2021, Bob has implemented 90 new all-electric vehicles funded through DCAS, with 63% of the DHS fleet now electric and more coming. Bob also worked with DCAS to install fast 5 EV chargers at Farragut Avenue and the Barbara Kleinman Shelter in Brooklyn.

Bob and DHS are also partnering with DCAS on Vision Zero and safety. DHS was one of the leading agencies to implement intelligent speed assistance, with 41 units operating ISA today.

Bob takes his leadership role very seriously. Two important lessons he has learned over the years are to be open about your expectations and to be as consistent as possible. He is a big supporter of people advancing their careers. He himself has had the pleasure of working at many different agencies. He would never deny anyone else the opportunity to advance their careers. He has been able to mentor many wonderful, motivated public servants across many jobs. His personal motivation to continue working for the city is the long-term effect that City agencies have on the lives of everyday New Yorkers. For the homeless, especially, these services are vital to their health, well-being, and safety.

In his spare time, Bob spends time with his lovely wife and two daughters. One of his favorite hobbies is fishing. Thanks to Bob for his leadership in fleet and his dedication to public service and New York City across four decades.



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>

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](#).

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[NYC Fleet Newsletter 526, March 6, 2026](#): Safe Fleet Operation, Every Minute and Every Mile

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

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