
Reducing Risk While Driving

By: Keith Kerman

Driving is difficult, especially in a crowded, busy, and dynamic city like New York. That said, it is the obligation of every fleet operator to drive cautiously at all times, be patient, and give the benefit of doubt to cyclists and pedestrians—especially children, when driving through the city. Road safety is public safety, and road safety is also personal safety. Fleet operators are also at risk on the roads, and we want everyone to get home safely every day.

DCAS has been implementing additional tools that can reduce the risks while driving. These include driver alerts, truck side-guards, surround cameras, automatic braking, backup cameras, and more. We've implemented over 70,000 safety improvements through our Vision Zero Safe Fleet Transition Plan.

The largest single initiative we have undertaken is live telematics tracking through the DCAS's Fleet Office of Real Time Tracking (FORT). DCAS is currently tracking over 27,000 units including school buses and tracks over five million miles a month for the City fleet alone.

Through FORT, DCAS sends out real-time email alerts when a vehicle is operating in a potentially unsafe manner including speeding or not complying with the New York State seat belt law. DCAS also sends out location alerts when vehicles leave the city or operate in unexpected locations such as a golf course or an airport. FORT will also send a real-time alert to a possible vehicle crash based on impact tracking called G-forces. DCAS has been recently working with all agencies that operate fleet vehicles to ensure these alerts are sent out to all supervisors of fleet units.

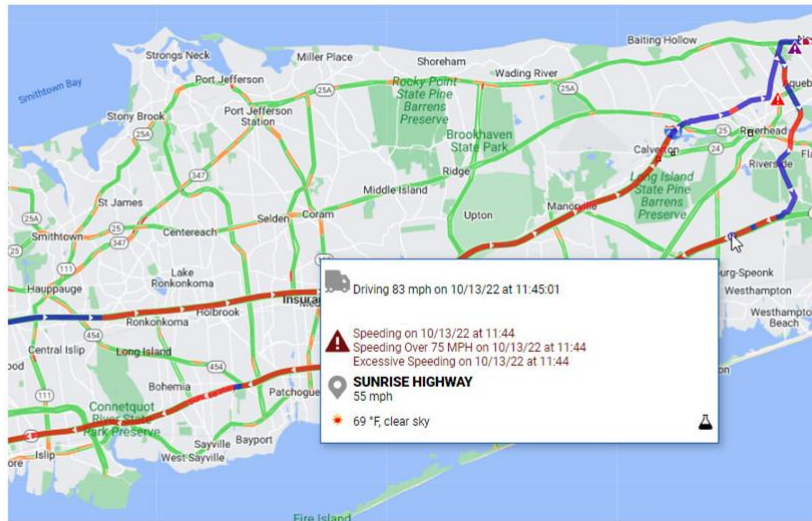


An agency Vehicle Safety Scorecard report from the DCAS Fleet Office of Real Time Tracking (FORT)

DCAS can also prepare a risk assessment for each vehicle based on its driving behaviors. Some driving behaviors are issues of law like speeding and seatbelt use; others are indicators of unsafe driving habits including flooring the accelerator called hard acceleration, slamming the brakes called hard braking, and taking fast turns called hard cornering.

The good news is that most City vehicles operate within low and mild safety risk. However, some do not and drive at medium or high safety risk. Our goal is for all operators to drive at a low risk to prevent crashes and to mitigate the impact of any that do occur.

Your fleet offices and agencies will receive regular reporting on these risks for each individual vehicle. Please keep your vehicle out of the orange (medium risk) and red (high risk) alert areas in these reports and drive safely and responsibly at all times.



A real-time high speed vehicle alert.

Upcoming Fleet Event

DCAS will be hosting an in-person [Fleet Safety Forum](#) on Tuesday, October 25, at Queens Theatre. For more information including a list of confirmed speakers and to register [visit DCAS Fleet Management's webpage](#).

VISION ZERO Building a Safer City

Fleet Safety Forum

*Hosted by the
Department of Citywide Administrative Services*

**Tuesday, October 25th
Queens Theatre
Flushing Meadows Corona Park**

NYC Fleet Manual

The NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook has been updated. Please see the updated version at [NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook](#).

Fleet Vision International: The Show

[Fleet Vision International: The Show](#) was held on April 12 and 13 in London. DCAS Deputy Commissioner and Chief Fleet Officer Keith Kerman and NYPD Deputy Commissioner Robert Martinez discussed the electrification of the City's fleet and how NYC is a worldwide leader in sustainability. Presentations from the show will be posted to the [DCAS Fleet webpage](#).



COVID-19 Safety Reminder

For all fleet drivers, when interacting with others in close quarters such as within a vehicle, it is strongly recommended to wear a mask.

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 406, September 30, 2022](#): Fleet Spotlight: Reggie Cooper, Ensuring the Quality of Our Fleet

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 405, September 23, 2022](#): Marking Climate Week, NYC Exceeds 4,000 Electric Vehicles

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 404, September 13, 2022](#): DOT Curbside Charging Opens Up for City of New York Fleet Use

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 403, August 26, 2022](#): Spotlight: Dilshad Basheer, Fleet Office of Real Time Tracking

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 402, August 18, 2022](#): Agencies Recognize Summer Auto High School Interns, 2022

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 401, August 12, 2022](#): Mayor Adams Announces Intelligent Speed Assist (ISA) Initiative

Check out the [complete archive](#).

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