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NYC JOINS WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT ON ELECTRIC CARS KEITH T. KERMAN

On the eve of a federal election, this week's fleet newsletter discusses two partnerships between NYC Fleet and the United States Federal government.

On November 3, 2016 the Obama administration announced steps to accelerate the deployment of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure nationwide. A focus of the announcement is the establishment by US DOT of 48 national electric vehicle charging corridors on highways in 35 states throughout the nation. These corridors will help establish reliable charging opportunities for EV operators, especially those looking to take longer trips.

The announcement also mentions the major increase in investment in electric vehicles nationwide in the last 8 years including an expansion in available EV vehicle models, a decrease in battery costs, and a substantial increase in charging capacity. NYC Fleet has certainly participated in all of these trends with four EV sedan types now on contract, major decreases in just the last two years in the contract cost of an EV sedan, and the growth of our EV charging infrastructure for fleet to over 315 chargers, the largest network in NY State.

The White House announcement also mentions commitments to further prioritize and invest in EV by States, Counties, Cities, Utilities and companies nationwide. NYC was proud to join this announcement with special mention of our increasing investment in solar electric carports and in electric battery technology for charging and reducing idling in City ambulances. Through Mayor de Blasio's NYC Clean Fleet initiative, NYC has committed to expand our EV fleet from 520 units on the road now, already one of the nation's largest EV fleets, to over 2,000 by 2025.

We have provided here the link to the White House announcement: www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/11/03/obama-administration-announces-new-actions-accelerate-deployment

US DOT PARTNERS WITH FLEET ON SAFE VEHICLE DESIGN MAHANTH S. JOISHY

On October 20, 2016 US DOT Volpe joined the NYC Fleet Federation to begin the final review process for our Safe Fleet Transition Plan (SFTP) as part of Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero. DCAS is partnering with Volpe to produce the initial SFTP report and guidelines.

SFTP is a comprehensive look at safety options and designs impacting the full variety of vehicle types and operations in the City fleet. DCAS and agency fleet specifications staffs are assessing options to increase safety in our vehicle specifications as well as identifying technologies worthy of additional research and testing.

Volpe has already partnered with DCAS on two aspects of this plan including our truck side-guard report and program and an initial review and pilot of driver alert technologies.

Through the SFTP we will establish a regular process to look at all available technologies and designs and gain the best insights from all the major fleet agencies. Fleet has also surveyed over 10,000 City fleet operators regarding fleet safety and those results and comments will help guide this plan.

Fleet plans to implement a first set of citywide safety specifications for City vehicles starting 2017 and will implement a regular update to the SFTP. Dr. Alexander Epstein and Margo Dawes will be leading Volpe's role in this effort which will include a review of the effectiveness of existing technologies and interviews with City agencies to discuss existing efforts and operational requirements.

Fleet looks forward to working with all City agencies, vehicle manufacturers, and Volpe to acquire the safest fleet possible for City fleet operators and the general public.

We will further discuss these efforts and we remind everyone about our Third Annual Vision Zero Safe Fleets Forum on Tuesday, November 29 at Queens Theatre in Flushing Meadows Corona Park. We look forward to announcing the speakers and panels for the forum in the next couple weeks.
