



Bill de Blasio, Mayor
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I DRIVE THE VEHICLE ELECTRIC

KEITH T. KERMAN

On September 13, 2017 DCAS and DOE cut the ribbon on a new Envision solar carport and Charge-point vehicle charger at Thomas Edison High School in Queens. This solar carport is one of at least 30 that DCAS is deploying citywide to support our growing electric vehicle fleet and to expand our access to off-the-grid clean energy.

As importantly, this carport will support our partnership with DOE to teach high school students to drive, and help them get their first licenses, in all electric vehicles. DCAS currently provides 7 public high schools with all electric Nissan Leafs to support driver education. This program has been launched in all five boroughs including George Washington High and Co-op Tech in Manhattan, Kennedy HS in the Bronx, Automotive High in Brooklyn, Thomas Edison in Queens, and South Richmond in Staten Island.

NYC's public high school students may very well be the first in the world to learn to drive in all electric, zero emissions vehicles, powered completely off the grid through solar electricity. The solar carport can generate up to 4.3 kilowatts (KW) of electricity per hour in good day time conditions. A Nissan Leaf has a battery size of 24 KWH and the carport battery can hold 30 KWH of electricity. Our early experience has been that the carports can power regularly 2 to 3 of these electric vehicles based on normal daily usage.

DCAS also provides 19 other City vehicles for use in training and hands-on work for the City's automotive high schools, as well as partnering on internships and other initiatives which we have discussed in previous newsletters. No project however offers a more compelling glimpse into a sustainable future than this announcement. Thanks to DOE for their continued partnership. (Extra credit if you can reference the title for this article.)



FLEET SPOTLIGHT, GERARD D'AMBROSIO, TEACHER, DOE

LENIN FIERO

Following up on education, cars and solar power, this week we spotlight Gerard D'Ambrosio, Instructor of Automotive Technology and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator at Tottenville High School in Staten Island.

Gerard is a key contributor to the fleet partnership with DOE and helps implement our automotive internships which successfully wrapped up another summer just a couple weeks ago. Gerard has been with DOE for 32 years and takes pride in helping young people learn and embrace the automotive technical field.

He is also helping his students get ahead of the extraordinary transformation that is taking place in transport technology. Gerard's students built two solar vehicles at Tottenville High School. These units have been featured in national competitions and discussed in earlier newsletters here. Gerard also recently participated in a training program organized by DCAS with General Motors on maintenance and safety issues with new electric vehicles including the GM Bolt.

When asked the best part of his job, he said "what I like the most is the students. I like passing on knowledge and seeing them grow and benefit from the skills and concepts they learned in school."

Gerard is himself a graduate of William E. Grady High School, one of NYC's CTE schools, and he attended City College of New York where he majored in Career and Technical Education. Gerard resides in Old Bridge, New Jersey with his wife and two children and enjoys motorcycling and spending time with his family. Many thanks from all of us at DCAS and NYC Fleet.

