

## Mayor Adams Signs Executive Order Increasing Safety for City and Contractor Fleets

By: Keith T. Kerman



On February 15, 2024, Mayor Adams [announced](#) the signing of a new executive order to improve Fleet and City Contractor Safety. Mayoral Executive Order [39](#) of 2024 expands and codifies safety requirements for the city's fleet. In addition, the Executive Order will now and for the first time require a full suite of safety practices for City Contractors.

The Executive Order builds on Local Law [108](#) of 2021, which extended the DCAS truck side-guard initiative to all City fleet vehicles, commercial waste trucks, and trucks from City Contractors. Over 7,000 trucks now have side-guards through Local Law 108, North America's most extensive program.

Whether implemented through in-house City operations or contracted services, city-funded fleet operations will be expected to operate with the highest level of safety.

For the City fleet, the new Order mandates that all new trucks be implemented as high vision models, which reduce line of sight obstructions for truck operators, or be installed with truck surround cameras. DCAS has already partnered with all the major truck operating City agencies to install 2,000 surround cameras. DCAS is also piloting these units with school buses. ABC7NY recently aired a news [piece](#) about the benefits of the cameras for school buses.

The Order also codifies and mandates existing safety initiatives, including safe driver training for all fleet operators and requiring all fleet operators to undergo license checks through the State License Event Notification System (LENS) and acknowledge the fleet rules. DCAS will work with all fifty fleet agencies to enforce these requirements.

For the first time, City Contractors will also be required to implement a complete set of safety requirements, following the Vision Zero Safe Fleet Transition Plan for City fleet units. For City contractors who operate fleet vehicles as part of their city-contracted services, the following safety requirements will be in place:

- Submitting a Fleet Safety Plan to their contracting agency and DCAS.
- Mandatory safe driver training within six months for all drivers working on City contracts. This training will mirror the training provided to City Fleet operators.
- NY State License Event Notification (LENS) Enrollment and Participation. LENS alerts fleet managers to any changes or significant events against a license, including suspensions or charges.
- Installation of telematics on fleet units that track location and speed. Executive Order [41](#) of 2019 already requires telematics for City Fleet vehicles, and Local Law 32 of 2019 requires tracking for city-contracted school buses. The new Order extends this requirement to all City contractors.
- Installation of surround cameras on trucks or use of high-vision truck models.
- Report all crashes that involve direct services under city contracts to city agencies.

Taken together with the school bus safety [initiative](#) that DCAS and NYC Public Schools announced in January, this Executive Order will improve safety for over 23,000 trucks that operate daily in the city and set a clear standard and expectation of safety for all public, private, and non-profit fleets.

"When it comes to street safety, it's imperative that New York City's government lead by example. So many cars and trucks on our city's streets are contracted vehicles working for the city, so it's critical that these vehicles and these drivers will be held to new and higher standards when it comes to safety," said Danny Harris, executive director, Transportation Alternatives. "We look forward to working with DCAS and other city agencies to ensure safer fleets and safer streets all across New York."

"Families for Safe Streets is heartened to see the city strengthening its street safety standards for the contractors it hires," said Kate Brockwehl, policy and advocacy committee co-chair of Families for Safe Streets. "We are particularly excited the city will be requiring fleet safety technology like surround cameras. We know these safety solutions will save lives in the five boroughs."

DCAS looks forward to working with each agency's fleet and contracting units to implement Executive Order 39.



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