
DCAS, Public Schools, and Agency Fleets Celebrate this Summer's Automotive Interns

By Keith T. Kerman

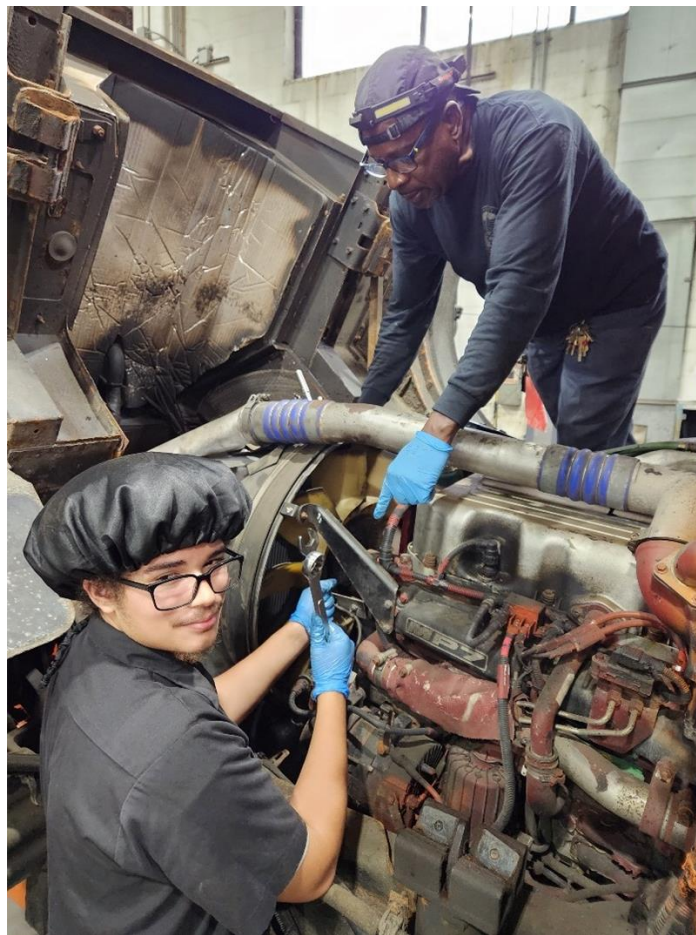


On August 16, DCAS Commissioner Louis Molina joined representatives from DCAS Fleet Management, NYC Public Schools, NYPD, FDNY, DSNY, Parks, and

DOT to celebrate this year's class of 43 high school automotive interns. The annual luncheon and recognition ceremony took place at NYPD's Shop 4 in Queens.

Each year, DCAS, NYC Public Schools Career and Technical Education (CTE), and the major fleet agencies partner to offer hands-on and paid summer internships for students at automotive high schools, and the summer program has been our mainstay. In 2024, we also hosted our first spring internship program.

The automotive interns perform hands-on repair work on police cars, sanitation trucks, and fire equipment. They learn from City mechanics and supervisors about garage operations and workplace safety, preventive maintenance, and alternative fuel systems. A DCAS installed electric fast charger is at the entrance to Shop 4, making clear the zero emission change that has begun in our fleet and garage services.



On July 24, DCAS hosted a full day safety training for nearly half the automotive interns. As we train the mechanics and technicians of the future, we want safety and sustainability to be core values they bring with them throughout their careers.

DCAS expects many of these interns to join NYC City government in the fleet program. Since 2015, DCAS has supported 470 automotive interns, many of whom now work at City agencies. In June 2024, DCAS issued the latest civil service test for auto service worker, the entry-level automotive repair title. An automotive high school diploma satisfies the two year experience requirement and enables a direct pathway into City employment. The next auto service worker exam will be in January 2025.

DCAS support for automotive education goes beyond internships. DCAS donates over 20 vehicles and additional engines to the schools, including electric and hybrid vehicles for driver's education and automotive repair training. DCAS and the MTA also co-host the Public School Automotive Commission, which aims to support automotive high schools and link the schools to public and private sector support.

"DCAS plays a critical role in the success of student pathways across the city. Through your partnership this summer, you've engaged over 40 students, providing them with invaluable real-world experiences and insights that help shape the future workforce of New York City. NYC Public Schools is proud of our continuing cross-agency partnerships and grateful for the impact of your efforts, empowering students and creating lasting opportunities that will benefit both their careers and our community," said a representative from the NYCPS Office of Student Pathways.

According to Fleet Safety Supervisor, Nate Koszer, "I have been a supervisor for our summer interns for the past four years, and they have never once failed to impress. Jonsly and Fernando did incredible field work last year doing safety retrofits on trucks. This year, Tyler and Lucas assisted in the review of collision reports, and their hard work was directly responsible for our data for the MMR being submitted on time. Over and over, our interns have demonstrated a unique brilliance and a driven work ethic. It makes me more confident in our future, knowing that the fleet world will be in their very capable hands."



Back at the Intern BBQ, intern Jonsly Sanchez spoke at the event, representing all the students. He mentioned that this was one of his first work experiences, and that learning to work with, and getting to know others, was as important as learning specific automotive repair skills. All interns received certificates and models of our new NYPD electric police cars in recognition. The NYPD also grilled up a great lunch and provided a tour of the garage facility.

Many thanks to those who helped organize this summer's program and event, including Sherry Lee, Tamika Johnson, Javier Nieves Negrón, and Nathaniel Koszer at DCAS; Omari Gay, Mary Beth Murray, Reina Utsunomiya, and Adam Breier at NYC Public Schools; James D'Ambrosio and Michael Gorgia at NYPD Fleet; Kathy Walcott and Eric Dorcean at DOT Fleet; Spiro Kattan, Frank DePalo, and James Shea at DSNY Fleet; Gabe Gordon and Sean Lee at FDNY Fleet; Brian Aucoin, Peter Galvin and Javier Vazquez at Parks Fleet; and Matthew Brito and Erkin Khazratkulov at Grant Associates, who help manage the program for NYC Public Schools.

VISION ZERO Building a Safer City



Wednesday, October 30th, 2024

Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park

DCAS and Together for Safer Roads invite you to the 2024 Vision Zero Fleet Safety Forum!

The event will bring together leading stakeholders from public and private fleets, innovative safety technology companies, policy experts, and road safety advocates for an exciting day of speeches, panel discussions, and breakout sessions.

Join us as we discuss how to systematically build safety into our roads, vehicles, and fleet operations.

The event is free and includes breakfast and a networking lunch.

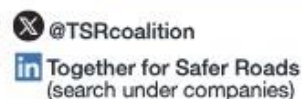
Event Schedule:

Networking
breakfast begins:

7:30 a.m.

Program begins:

8:30 a.m.



10 Years of Vision Zero: Part 5 - Leading by Example



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Week in Review | August 10 - August 16



- This week we named [Robert Tucker as the new commissioner of the FDNY](#). Robert's very first job was at the FDNY, and he's been their biggest supporter his entire life and career.
 - Showed that scaffolding isn't just ugly, but it's also [holding businesses back](#). A new study conducted by Mastercard shows the economic value of getting scaffolding and sheds down quickly and safely.
 - Secured a major win for the Bronx that will [create approximately 7,000 new homes and 10,000 permanent jobs](#). In a unanimous vote, the City Council approved the Department of City Planning's sweeping vision to bring four Metro North stations to the Bronx along with amazing investments in housing and public space.
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Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 466, August 8, 2024](#): Fleet Spotlight: Fiona Crisp, Julia Marchetti, Building Up an Electric Fleet

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 465, August 2, 2024](#): Protect the City's Interest When Private Vehicles Damage City Vehicles

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 464, July 22, 2024](#): DCAS and Truck Association of New York Partner on Safe Fleet Education

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 463, July 12, 2024](#): DCAS Commissioner Molina Tours Fleet Office of Real-Time Tracking (FORT)

Check out the [complete archive](#).

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