

The Vision Zero Story

Launched in 2014, Vision Zero has one clear goal: eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries on our roadways. The City must not regard traffic crashes as mere “accidents,” but rather as preventable incidents that can be systematically addressed. No level of fatality on city streets is inevitable or acceptable.

Through Vision Zero, the City is using every tool at its disposal to improve the safety of our streets. This includes major investments to redesign roadways, protect cyclists, and make public transportation more accessible and efficient. The City has also turned on speed cameras 24/7 to slow down traffic, especially near schools. An inter-agency Vision Zero task force works together, under the Mayor’s Office leadership, to implement a comprehensive approach to street safety.

To learn more about Vision Zero, visit nyc.gov/VisionZero.

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Ensuring Safe Streets

with New York City’s Fleet

New Yorkers deserve safe streets. But each year in New York City, thousands of people are seriously injured, and hundreds are killed in traffic crashes. That is why DCAS is a proud partner in the Vision Zero initiative to help make our roads safer for all New Yorkers.

DCAS is enhancing the safety of the City's vehicle fleet and providing a road map for other private and public fleets through several key initiatives:

1. Intelligent Speed Assistance

Speeding is the leading cause of serious injuries and fatalities on our roadways. When installed, intelligent speed assistance (ISA) technology restricts a vehicle's maximum speed and prevents the operator from exceeding the local speed limit. DCAS has equipped over 500 city vehicles with this innovative technology. In partnership with the US DOT Volpe Center, DCAS released a comprehensive evaluation of the technology's effectiveness and found a 64% decrease in speeding after the technology was installed.



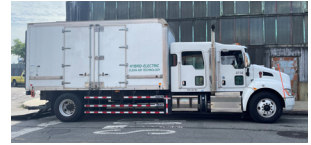
2. High Vision Trucks & Truck Surround Cameras

Trucks and other large vehicles have limited driver visibility. In a conventionally designed truck, a driver may not be able to see the ground in front for over 15 feet. By using new high-vision truck cabs, city truck drivers can better see their surroundings. The City has committed to procuring high vision trucks where available and is pushing truck manufacturers to supply more high vision truck models.

Until high vision models are fully available, DCAS is adding surround cameras to trucks to provide drivers an additional tool to see beyond obstructions. So far, DCAS has installed over 2000 surround cameras. Through Mayoral Executive Order 39 of 2024, city contractors must do the same.

3. Truck Side Guards

Side-impact collision can result in pedestrians or cyclists sliding under large vehicles. To reduce this risk, barriers called side guards are installed on all trucks in the City's fleet and commercial waste sector. New York City is leading the nation in this endeavor with all eligible city trucks equipped with side guards. This technology is standard on trucks in many parts of the world, but not yet in North America.



4. Real-Time Vehicle Tracking

DCAS opened the Fleet Office of Real Time Tracking (FORT) to better utilize live tracking and telematics to monitor the use of the City's fleet. Agencies receive alerts about vehicle collisions, speeding, and hard driving. Over 29,000 city vehicles and school buses now utilize telematics through DCAS.



5. Better Safety for School Buses

New York City operates over 10,000 contracted school buses. DCAS and NYC Public Schools are partnering to improve safety, including live tracking, additional training, and introducing new technology like intelligent speed assistance and surround cameras. Transporting children safely is a critical responsibility.

6. Safety is Not a Luxury

DCAS is advocating with car manufacturers to decouple enhanced safety features from luxury packages. Vehicle buyers should be able to invest in automatic braking and driver alerts without being required to also get sunroofs or leather seats.

