



Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner
Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer

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DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASSES START DAILY AT DCAS

KEITH T. KERMAN



On July 28, DCAS will begin offering the state defensive driving course on a daily basis, as we work to bring all authorized drivers citywide into the program.

DCAS Fleet has offered defensive driving for over ten years but with courses held two to four times a month. As part of Vision Zero, Fleet at DCAS has added full time training staff for the course and will host one to two classes per day. We expect to train over 12,000 drivers annually on the course, which focuses on safe driving habits and techniques and will also discuss the Vision Zero initiative in general.

So far, this year we have trained 1,112 staff from 14 agencies, figures that will start to grow dramatically. We are also continuing train the trainer efforts with 24 supervisors, mostly from DSNY, attending a train the trainer class on July 25.

As part of the roll out, DCAS will also establish the first citywide authorized drivers list through the City's fleet management system, Fleet Focus. We will use this list to track the training certificates which are good for three years and also provide employees with potential insurance benefits and points off their licenses.

Thanks to your fleet, safety, training, and transport coordinators for helping to roll this effort out.

SPOTLIGHT: EMERGENCY WATER PUMPING EQUIPMENT

JONATHAN ELLS

As we all know, heavy rainstorms and coastal storms can quickly cause flooding conditions that can block traffic, damage infrastructure, and threaten safety. This June, Parks received a new high powered water pump to help address major storm and outdoor flood situations and complement smaller pumps operated by the agency.

This new Pioneer Pump was provided by Elliott International Equipment and can move over 2,000 gallons of water per minute enabling rapid clearing of roadways, park areas, basements, or lots. The unit is designed to operate for up to 14 hours continuously without refueling and comes with 200 feet of combined suction and discharge hosing, of 6 and 4 inch width, respectively, to enable quick and flexible removal of water.

This pump, a first of its size and capacity for Parks, was funded as part of a citywide equipment resiliency initiative being coordinated through DCAS. In addition to the pump, DCAS has distributed over 200 additional emergency light towers to NYPD and other City agencies. This order included the City's first solar light tower units. We have also ordered and are awaiting 35 new emergency fuel trucks and are developing contract orders for new generator and forklift equipment.

Thanks to Parks for their work on the specification for the water pump and to DCAS Procurement for administering the contracting. We will report further on the emergency equipment program as new units arrive.

