

DCAS, DOE, U.S. DOT Volpe Kick Off Safe Fleet Plan Initiative for School Buses

By: Keith Kerman and Eric Richardson

On June 24, 2022, DCAS, the Department of Education Office of Pupil Transportation (DOE OPT), and the U.S. DOT Volpe Center launched an initiative to prepare a Safe Fleet Transition Plan (SFTP) for school bus operations. The City agencies were joined in the [kick-off meeting](#) by representatives from 12 of the major New York City school bus companies, including the non-profit New York City School Buses Umbrella Services, known as NYCSBUS.



Example of a High Vision School Bus.

The SFTP will look at ways to improve the design and operation of buses to reduce crashes and increase safety. The plan will also examine how safety can be incorporated with electric bus design as the City works towards an all-electric school bus fleet by 2035. The plan will assess best practices across the City's current school bus companies and from school bus operations nationwide.

Through [Executive Order 53 of 2020](#), DCAS is called on to promote and implement safe and electric fleets of the future for the City fleet and also private fleets and other public fleets operating within the five boroughs. DCAS will prepare regular Safe and Clean Fleet Transition Plans (SFTP and CFTP) to outline the state of the market and technology to achieve safer and more sustainability fleet operations.

DCAS has partnered with [U.S. DOT Volpe](#) on this initiative. DCAS and Volpe have already published four reports. [The first report, on truck side-guards](#), has now inspired two NYC local laws and the nation's largest side-guard implementation. The two published SFTPs for the City fleet from [2017](#) and [2018 - 2019](#) have resulted in over 63,000 safety improvements so far.

In December 2021, DCAS, BIC and U.S. DOT Volpe also published a [Safe Fleet Transition Plan for the commercial waste industry](#). The waste industry report will be a model as we launch a similar effort with private school bus companies serving NYC children.

At the kick-off event, DCAS also announced it will be hosting an [in-person Fleet Safety Forum on Tuesday, October 25, at Queens Theatre](#). In partnership with Together for Safer Roads (TSR), DCAS has hosted a series of online safety fleet forums since 2020. This will be our first in-person forum since 2019.

DCAS Fleet looks forward to making a number of additional safety announcements this summer and publishing our first Clean Fleet Transition Plan as well.

VISION ZERO Building a Safer City

Fleet Safety Forum

*Hosted by the
Department of Citywide Administrative Services*

Tuesday, October 25th

Queens Theatre

Flushing Meadows Corona Park



DCAS will be hosting an in-person Fleet Safety Forum on Tuesday, October 25, at Queens Theatre.

NYC Fleet Manual

The NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook has been updated. Please see the updated version at [NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook](#).

Fleet Vision International: The Show

[Fleet Vision International: The Show](#) was held on April 12 and 13 in London. DCAS Deputy Commissioner and Chief Fleet Officer Keith Kerman and NYPD Deputy

Commissioner Robert Martinez discussed the electrification of the City's fleet and how NYC is a worldwide leader in sustainability. Presentations from the show will be posted to the [DCAS Fleet webpage](#).



COVID-19 Safety Reminder

For all fleet drivers, when interacting with others in close quarters such as within a vehicle, it is strongly recommended to wear a mask.

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 394, June 17, 2022](#): Spotlight: Gary Prasad, Fleet Field Services Unit

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 393, June 10, 2022](#): The Falcons Watching Over the Fleet

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 392, June 3, 2022](#): Government Fleet Magazine Recognizes NYC as #1 Large Fleet

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 391, May 26, 2022](#): 33rd Annual NYC Fleet Show Highlights Electric Vehicles in Law Enforcement

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 390, May 20, 2022](#): Together for Safer Roads and DCAS Hosts 2022 Vision Zero Fleet Safety Forum

Check out the [complete archive](#).

// Connect with DCAS to learn more about the City of New York's Fleet //



Visit us on the web at nyc.gov/DCAS
