NYC DCAS
Citywide Administrative Services

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NYC Fleet Newsletter

July 20, 2018 - Issue 230

NYC DOT and Fleet Partner on Connected Vehicles

By: Eric Richardson

On July 19, 2018, DOT Deputy Commissioner of Traffic Operations Joshua Benson and DCAS Deputy Commissioner Keith Kerman finalized an MOU formalizing fleet's role in the Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment Program being funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and administered by NYC Department of Transportation (DOT). Connected vehicle technology holds tremendous promise for increasing safety and efficiency on our city's roadways and could be a path to partial or fully autonomous vehicles.

On September 1, 2016, USDOT awarded three cooperative agreements collectively worth more than $45 million to initiate a design, build, and test phase of the Connected Vehicle (CV) Pilot Deployment Program in three sites: New York City (NYC), Wyoming, and Tampa, Florida.

In NYC, connected vehicle technology will be installed in 8,000 vehicles. The City fleet will now be a major participant in this effort making up almost half the vehicles in the program. Other partners will include United Parcel Service, the Metropolitan Transit Authority, and NYC Tax and Limo Commission-licensed vehicles. DCAS and DOT will install the technology in conjunction with the upgrade of our existing telematics system for fleet. Together these efforts will constitute the most substantial step forward to date in fleet systems technology citywide.

The Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment Program is a national effort to deploy, test, and operationalize cutting-edge mobile and roadside technologies and to connect vehicles to each other and to street fixtures in different environments. NYC's program will be the test case for a dense urban environment, focusing on Manhattan and Downtown Brooklyn.

"We are excited about this innovative pilot that will not only allow cars to communicate with each other but with our traffic signals as well," said Mohamad Talas, Director ITS Program Manager. "This test, which preserves driver anonymity, will prove to the federal government whether this technology is ready for the most complex streets in the nation or not."

How does connective vehicle technology work? The system deploys sensors and global positioning systems on vehicles and street infrastructure. The vehicles and infrastructure can then communicate with each other, identify potential hazards, and alert drivers to take preventive actions. For example, two connected vehicles could alert each other that they are heading toward impact and the vehicles could then alert both drivers to brake or take protective action. A street light could alert a vehicle that it's going too fast to safely stop before an upcoming red light.

This technology has the potential to increase safety, enable more efficient management of roadways, and reduce environmental impacts such as from idling. For more information regarding the Connected Vehicle Pilot Program, please visit **https://www.cvp.nyc**. Among many, thanks to Mohamad Talas and Juan Martinez at DOT, Eric Richardson and Stanley John at DCAS, and Robert Silberstein at DCAS Legal.

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