



**United Nations Road Safety Week Announcement
with Together for Safer Roads**

Monday May 6th, 2019

United Nations, 42nd Street and 1st Avenue, New York, NY Conference Room

<http://www.togetherforsaferroads.org/press/together-for-safer-roads-anheuser-busch-first-to-join-nyc-connected-vehicle-pilot/>

REMARKS by Keith Kerman, NYC Chief Fleet Officer, Deputy Commissioner, DCAS

- Good afternoon.
- On behalf of Mayor de Blasio and DCAS Commissioner Lisette Camilo, I want to thank the United Nations for their continued focus on road safety and for hosting us today.
- Under Mayor de Blasio, NYC has been a leader in traffic safety through our Vision Zero initiative. I want to recognize the dedicated team from the Mayor's Vision Zero task force, many of whom are here today, from agencies including DOT, NYPD, TLC, DHMH, BIC, and the Mayor's Office.
- NYC streets are safer than they have ever been. We adopted Vision Zero from our international partners and now NYC's Vision Zero effort has become a model for our nation. We are committed to doing more and intensifying these efforts.
- I want to thank Dave Braunstein and Together for Safer Roads (TSR) for their leadership and partnership with NYC on Vision Zero and their work on today's important announcement. Vision Zero has been an extra-ordinary public/public and public/private partnership and advocacy groups like Transportation Alternatives, Families for Safe Streets, and now TSR have helped lead and drive this effort.
- Vision Zero has many components including traffic and roadway design, police enforcement, health monitoring, and fleet safety, which is our focus at DCAS and also TLC.
- NYC's City owned fleet is one of the nation's largest at 31,000 vehicles. We are working to make it the nation's safest and most sustainable as well.
- Among many initiatives:

- We have brought in over 50,000 City employees for focused training on Vision Zero and safe driving.
 - We are adding telematics to all City vehicles so we can monitor speed, seatbelts, driving habits, left-hand turns, minute to minute, at our new real-time fleet center.
 - We have partnered with the US DOT Volpe Center on a Safe Fleet Transition Plan to ensure specifications and design for our 160 types of vehicles are as safe as possible.
 - We lead North America in truck side-guard implementation and recently announced that we will transition to high vision trucks. These have both been international partnerships.
 - We are pushing the fleet industry to separate safety and luxury in how they sell and market vehicles.
 - We have barred hands-free phone use by City fleet operators. It's the distraction that kills.
- As importantly, we are partnering with City DOT, through support from US DOT, to introduce vehicle to vehicle and vehicle to infrastructure (V to V and V to I) technology on City fleet units. I'll let DOT discuss the technology more in depth.
 - It's our view that the design of fleet systems is as critical to safe streets as the design of roadways. Through V to V and V to I, the two come even more closely together, with tremendous potential for long term safety improvement.
 - Cars talking to cars. Infrastructure talking to cars – all to prevent collisions in real-time and safeguard drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.
 - It's great stuff. That said, all these steps will only fulfill their promise if widely adopted, by public and private fleets, and all vehicle owners. That's where TSR and our corporate partners come in today.
 - We need all these safe practices and technology improvements to be adopted as widely as possible. Today's partnerships are a great step forward.
 - Finally, I encourage others to join this effort. NYC will be hosting a fleet show at Flushing Meadows Corona Park on May 16 and an International Future Fleet Forum with Montreal on June 3 and 4. Until then, thanks again to the United Nations, TSR and our many partners on Vision Zero. Congratulations.