

## Winter Fleet Operations

By: Keith T. Kerman

Happy New Year. The year has begun with major challenges, from the increase in COVID-19 cases to the insurrection at the Capitol. With all that's going on, we also need to prepare for the winter season. The mid-December snowstorm, Gail, has already delivered more snow than all of last year and the most since the Jonas Blizzard in January 2016.

DSNY, led by newly-appointed Commissioner Ed Grayson, orchestrated an effective response and got the city back and running quickly. DSNY deployed over 2,000 plowing units and 700 salt spreaders to tackle the late fall snow. Our other partner agencies, including DOT, DEP, and Parks, also assisted with the snow removal.



DOT got to test out their new plowing and anti-icing fleet for East River bridge locations. The units, shown here with new DOT Commissioner Margaret Forgione, performed well and displayed improved visibility and traction in their first winter storm challenge.

As we warn all operators about every year, winter storms are the single biggest cause of fleet crashes and injuries. We saw a 600% increase in crashes on the day of the storm.

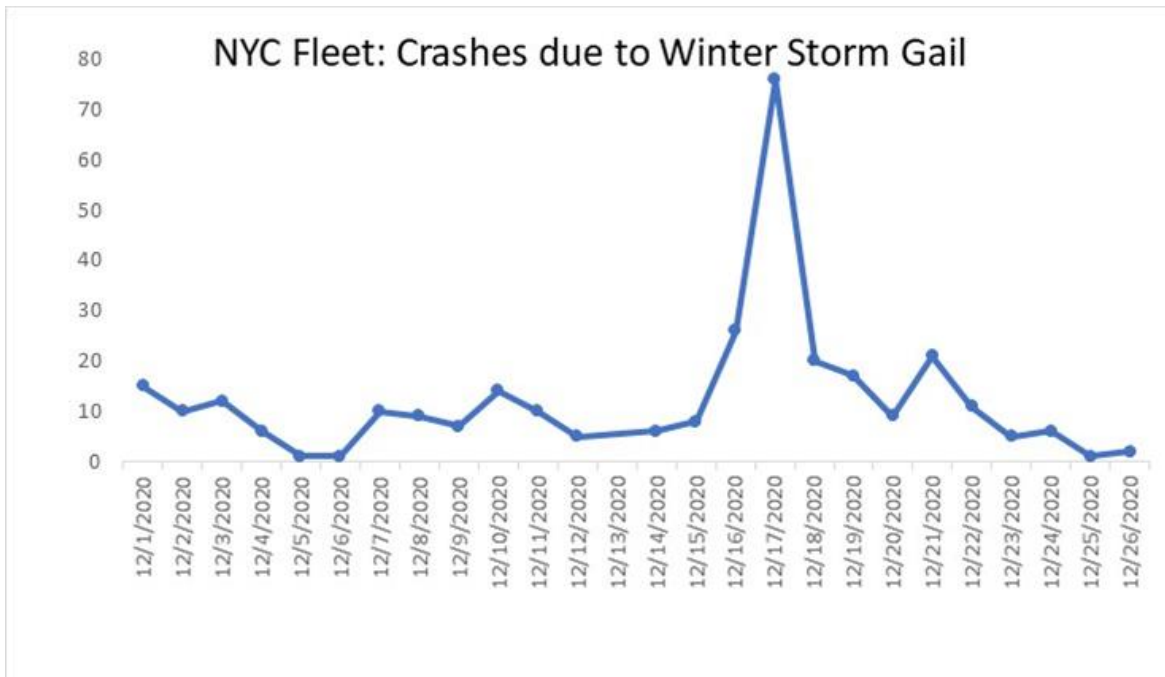
If you don't have to travel during or immediately after a storm, don't. If you are responding to the storm emergency, please be sure to conduct a thorough pre-trip inspection of the vehicle before-hand, checking windshield wipers, fluids, and tires. Drive slowly and

cautiously at all times. If your vehicle has four-wheel drive, use it.

Linked [here](#) are some further winter driving tips from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Whatever the event, NYC's public servants and fleet operators step up and get the job done. This will be a busy year. Let's do our work and do it safely. Also, congratulations to our long-time

colleagues and now commissioners at DSNY and DOT, who are leading two of NYC's most important agencies and fleet operations.



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