

Fleet Spotlight: Oliver Redman II, DOT Fleet Services

By: Keith T. Kerman and Henry Cornejo

This week's newsletter places the fleet spotlight on Oliver Redman II, who is currently a supervisor of mechanics at the DOT's Hamilton Garage in Brooklyn.

Oliver has been with the City for over 30 years and has had a remarkable career. It all began at Automotive High School. Oliver was part of the Cooperative Education Program (COOP), where high school students are given an automotive-based apprenticeship with a City agency to gain work experience. This program continues today with our Career and Technical Education (CTE) partnership with the Department of Education. (I, Keith Kerman, was in COOP as well back in public high school in 1986, although in a different state.)

Oliver was placed with the Parks Department and gained practical hands-on experience and skills from the summer of 1985 until graduating high school in the summer of 1986. After high school, Oliver transitioned from being an apprentice to a full-time City employee, starting as a provisional senior auto service worker with Parks from September 1986 to 1989.

He became a permanent senior auto service worker with NYCHA in 1989. In June 1992, he passed a promotional test and became a full auto mechanic with NYCHA. In January 1993, he joined DOT as a mechanic, being picked up off the civil service list. At this point, Oliver's career was a prime example of a career pathway that starts with an automotive high school internship, goes to auto service worker, and then, quickly in his case, to auto mechanic.

With DOT, from 1993 to 2016, Oliver focused on maintaining and repairing fleet trucks and equipment from different DOT divisions. DOT's street maintaining equipment is some of fleet's most complex. Oliver helped ensure our street repair crews had safe and reliable equipment and kept DOT's fleet going during hurricanes, snowstorms, and other emergencies.



In 2016, Oliver's promotional track continued and he became a supervisor of mechanical equipment. In 2017, he was assigned to Hamilton Garage where he works today. Oliver supervises nine mechanics who are repairing 10 to 20 fleet units a day. He oversees repair work and preventive maintenance, ensures the fleet system is administered, and coordinates with DOT's operating divisions and fleet users. Oliver has also used his years of experience to train and mentor new mechanics, stressing quality work. "This is a great job," states Oliver, "with great benefits and opportunities for growth." No one exemplifies that better than Oliver himself.

When he's not working, Oliver spends his time with his family, planning his next trip, or with his motorcycles, specifically his 2003 Kawasaki ZX-9 Ninja.

Oliver has effectively and proudly served NYC, Parks, and DOT across five decades. DCAS, NYC Fleet, and DOT congratulate and thank him for his dedication.

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