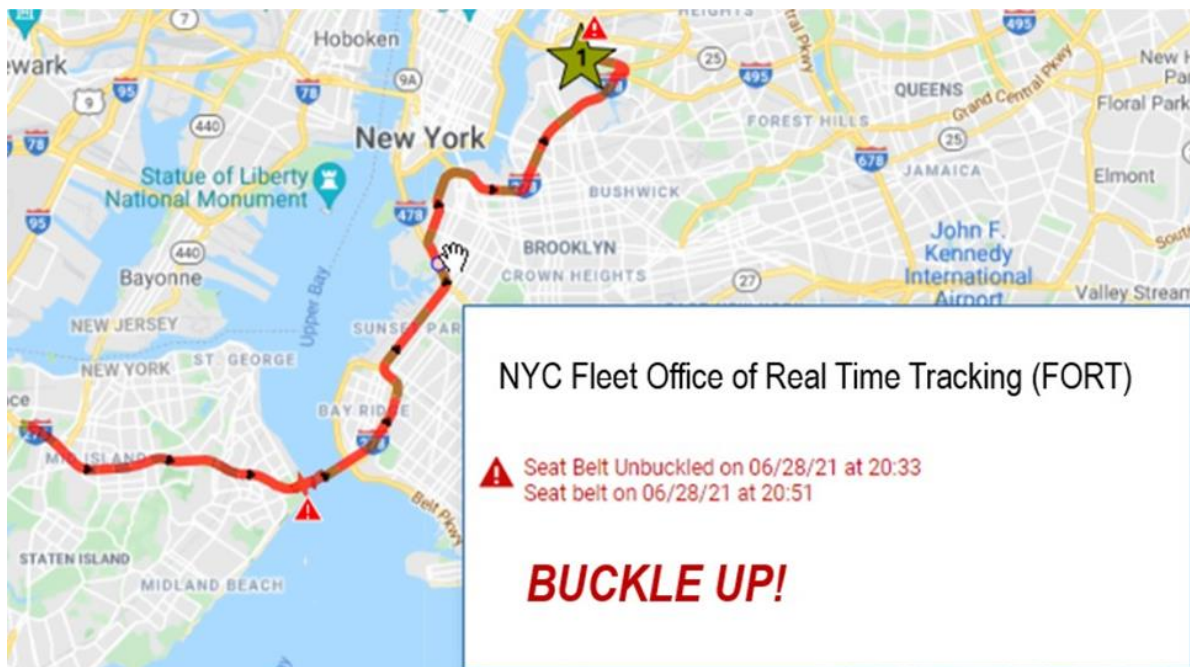


Back to Basics for the Summer: Seatbelt Challenge!

By: Keith T. Kerman and Nate Koszer

NY State recently announced that nearly 70,000 tickets were issued in a two-week statewide Click It or Ticket initiative. Nationwide, [the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#) reports that 90% of drivers properly use seatbelts. The rate is 88% for the Northeast.

[The National Safety Council](#) reports that seatbelts reduce fatalities and injuries by over 50% in cars and even more in pickups and vans, like those operated by so many NYC staff and crews. Our Fleet Newsletter has of course focused on seatbelt implementation many times, including [Issue 328 from last December](#).



Wearing a seatbelt is the law, it's common sense, and it's self-preservation. The most likely party to be hurt by your failure to wear a seatbelt is you, followed closely by whoever joins you as a passenger in your vehicle. By law and fleet rule, it's the driver's responsibility to ensure that they and all passengers are buckled up.

While we like citing statistics from others, NYC Fleet has its own statistics on seatbelt use. DCAS currently has live tracking for 11,500 City fleet units. Our system lets agencies know if the driver of a vehicle has engaged their seatbelt while the vehicle is in motion.

This July, we will launch a *Seatbelt Challenge*. Each day, we will contact each agency with their seatbelt compliance rate and a list of vehicles that were not in compliance. Please work with us and your agency to get in full compliance. If a seatbelt is malfunctioning, get the vehicle to the repair shop. Otherwise, buckle up and have your passengers do the same. The life you will save will be your own. We will update each agency on progress in eliminating seatbelt violations.



DCAS's Inside Citywide Podcast

DCAS's new [Inside Citywide podcast](#) provides a behind-the-scenes look at New York City government. Episode 2 is out now and takes a look at the future of the City of New York's vehicle fleet as it transitions to all-electric by 2040.

COVID-19 Safety Reminder

For all fleet drivers, please be reminded to wear a mask when operating a fleet vehicle with others in the vehicle. Attached again are the [Department of Health's COVID-19 Safety Guidelines relating to vehicle operation](#).

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 349, June 25, 2021](#): NYC Fleet Spotlight- DOT Mechanic Joe Cappellino

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 348, June 18, 2021](#): NYC Fleet Spotlight: FDNY Mechanic Chris Boodhan

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 347, June 7, 2021](#): Fleets of the Future- Chicago Fleet

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 346, May 28, 2021](#): US DOT and NYC Connected Vehicle Pilot Goes Live

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 345, May 21, 2021](#): TSR and DCAS Host Global Vision Zero Conference: Announce New Safety Award and Surround Camera Initiative for City Fleet Trucks

Check out the [complete archive](#).

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