

## BIC and DCAS Partner With US DOT Volpe on Safe Fleet Plan

By: Keith T. Kerman

This week, the Business Integrity Commission (BIC) and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) released a [Safe Fleet Transition Plan \(SFTP\)](#) focusing on safety for commercial waste vehicles and garbage trucks. The SFTP was produced in partnership with the U.S. DOT Volpe Center. The [press release](#) is available on DCAS's website.

This is the fourth Safe Fleet Transition Plan (SFTP) published by DCAS and Volpe. In 2015, DCAS and Volpe published a [report on truck side-guards](#) that has since led to two separate local laws. In 2017, DCAS published [the first SFTP for the City's fleet](#), which now serves as a guide for the City's new vehicle acquisition policy. Most recently, in 2018, an [updated Safe Fleet Transition Plan for the City fleet](#) was published.

The commercial waste fleet report was the first published in compliance with [Mayoral Executive Order 53 of 2020](#), which calls for DCAS to prepare regular Safe and Clean Fleet Transition Plans aimed at private and public fleets and in support of a *Fleets of the Future Initiative*. DCAS and Volpe completed a five-year extension of their partnership in September 2021.

### Safe Fleet Transition Plan: Private Vehicle Crashes and Vehicle Safety Technology

Preliminary Report: Expanding the NYC Safe Fleet Transition Plan to Trade Waste Industry and Private Truck Fleets

Alexander K Epstein, Ph.D., Michael Chang, Lucy Liu, and Rahi Patel



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Prepared for:  
Business Integrity Commission and Department of Citywide Administrative Services  
City of New York

For this report, Volpe studied a decade of actual NYC crashes involving commercial waste vehicles, from January 2010 through May 2019. Volpe categorized the causes of the crashes and the types of vehicles involved. Using these results, Volpe, BIC, and DCAS identified the most impactful potential steps for improving fleet design and reducing crashes.

The main recommendations include:

- Transition to high vision trucks, to address line of sight restrictions.

- Fully implement the truck side-guard program.
- Specify new vehicles and retrofit existing trucks with additional safety devices, including surround cameras and additional mirrors.
- Avoid devices, like bug deflectors, that can impair a driver's vision.

**Noah D. Genel, Commissioner and Chair of the New York City Business Integrity Commission** on the release of this report said, "Improving traffic safety in the commercial waste-hauling industry is an important goal of BIC's, and the guidance provided by this preliminary report has been crucial in furthering that goal."

BIC and DCAS will work together to distribute and discuss this report with the commercial waste industry and promote the implementation of these and other safety steps.

Many thanks to everyone at BIC, DCAS, U.S. DOT Volpe, and the Mayor's Office for their support and work on this initiative.

## NYC Fleet Manual

The NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook has been updated. Please see the updated version at [NYC Fleet Manual and Drivers Handbook](#).

## Fleet Vision International Quarter 4



The Fleet Vision International magazine for the fourth quarter of 2021 is out now. This edition features an article written by DCAS Deputy Commissioner and NYC Chief Fleet Officer Keith Kerman on the work NYC Parks is doing to clean, repair, and safeguard NYC parks while reducing fleet emissions.

[Fleet Vision International Q4 2021](#)

## DCAS's Inside Citywide Podcast

DCAS's [Inside Citywide podcast](#) provides a behind-the-scenes look at New York City government. Episode 2 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.](#)

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## Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 372, December 3, 2021:](#) Teaching Fleet Safety at City Schools

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 371, November 22, 2021:](#) Fleet Spotlight - Ralph McKee Automotive High School

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 370, November 12, 2021:](#) Fleet Spotlight: DCAS Commissioner Lisette Camilo

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 369, November 5, 2021:](#) Vision Zero Dusk and Darkness Campaign

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 368, October 29, 2021:](#) City Council Expands Truck Side-Guards Law to Contractors

Check out the [complete archive.](#)

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