

Back to School, Back to Basics on Safe and Responsible Fleet Operation

By: Keith T. Kerman

School is back in session, and the first days always involve a refresh and reminder of the basic rules of conduct. In that spirit, let's all be reminded and re-dedicate ourselves to the basic rules of safe and responsible fleet operation.

- **Drive slowly, cautiously, and responsibly at all times, and especially near school zones.** Under the leadership of Mayor Adams and the City Department of Transportation (DOT), speed cameras are now on [24/7](#) near school zones. If you are driving a City vehicle and break the speed law or any traffic regulation, you must personally pay the ticket. More importantly, you are putting children at risk. Don't do it.
- **Wear your seatbelt.** It's not just the law, it just might save your life. This is not a theory. We have seen this painful reality play out in our fleet. If you're the driver, enforce the rule with your passengers.
- **Do not leave a vehicle engine running when in park.** Excessive vehicle idling is illegal in NYC as per [Local Law 5](#) of 2009. Idling adds to pollution, wastes money, and damages vehicles. The law is no more than three minutes unless a law enforcement vehicle or work vehicle, like a bucket truck, is in use. In school zones, the law is one minute. In NYC, citizens are encouraged to [report idling](#). They shouldn't have to.
- **Slow down and move over when approaching and driving through work zones.** City employees, construction workers, and others perform critical jobs that often require working on or about highways or other traffic areas. Protect them by driving slowly and cautiously near the zones. Learn more about the [Move Over Law](#) in New York.
- **Use the Safety Technology that DCAS is installing.** DCAS is working with agencies to install intelligent speed assist, backup cameras, surround cameras for trucks, truck safety side-guards, driver alerts, and other safety technologies. While some safety tech like truck side-guards don't require



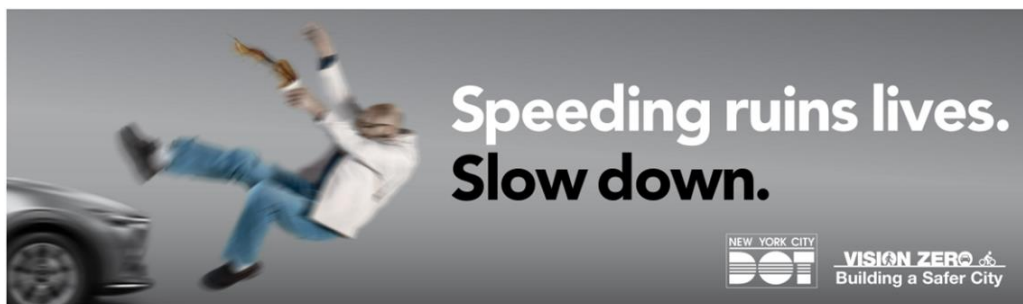
anything of the operator to safeguard pedestrians, most still do. Please take the time to learn how the technologies work and make use of them. If you have questions, reach out to your agency transportation coordinator or [email us](#).

- **It's STILL not, and never will be, your car.**

City fleet units are public assets procured to serve the City's public service missions. They are not perks and are not authorized for any personal use. Some employees have commuting authorization. That is provided to serve City operational needs, for instance, for inspectors or emergency responders. Authorized commuters may not use the vehicle personally except to get home. If you have not been authorized by your agency and DCAS to commute, you may not. Using a City vehicle without authorization for personal reasons is a serious offense and will be treated as such.



- **Know and Follow the Rules:** All fleet operators must read and acknowledge the [Fleet Rules](#) and Drivers manual before using City vehicles. The rules apply to all.



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](#).

New York City Vision Zero Fleet Forum

VISION ZERO

Building a Safer City

This year's New York City Vision Zero Fleet Forum will be held on Thursday November 2, at the Queens Theatre in Flushing Meadows Corona Park

This annual event co-hosted this year by *Together for Safer Roads* will highlight the power and promise of building partnerships to solve our nation's roadway safety crisis, the safe system approach, and how vehicle design and technology plays a vital role in saving lives.

[View the event flyer](#) to learn more. Updated information like the event agenda and registration links will be posted on the DCAS Fleet Management webpage in the coming weeks. You can also [email fleet](#) for more information.



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Week In Review: Sept. 9 - Sept. 15

Marking 22 years since the 9/11 attacks, rolling out a once-in-a-generation investment for Staten Island, awarding Diddy with the key to the city, and celebrating the diversity and culture of all who live here. All this and more in a look back on the week in New York City.



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[NYC Fleet Newsletter 434, August 28, 2023](#): Let's Talk About Electric Vehicles

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 433, August 17, 2023](#): Celebrating the 2023 High School Automotive Summer Interns

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 432, August 9, 2023](#): DCAS Rolls Out Over 300 Electric Vans

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 431, August 3, 2023](#): Fleet Spotlight: Mark Aronberg, FDNY Fleet

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