

Fleet Spotlight: The Murphy Brothers, Patrick and Tim; FDNY, DEP, and Parks

By Keith T. Kerman & Nate Koszer



This week, our newsletter spotlights Tim Murphy and Patrick Murphy, two brothers with long and storied careers with the City. Patrick retired earlier this year as a Deputy Director of Fleet Management after a 36-year career at FDNY, while Tim is now in his 31st year with the City. He is currently a Supervisor of Mechanics at NYC Parks truck repair shop on Randalls Island. Patrick spent his entire career with FDNY, while Tim began at DEP and came over to Parks during the shop and mechanic consolidation of 2013. Before their time with the City, both brothers immigrated to America from Ireland and worked in auto-mechanic shops in the private sector before joining their respective agencies.

Tim was a mechanic at DEP for twenty years and was promoted to Supervisor shortly after coming to Parks in 2013. However, he still has ties to his old agency. Tim oversees the mechanics working on over 300 DEP trucks and fleet units serviced at Parks 5 Boro. On any given day, his team will have between 10 and 12 trucks in their bays.

During his time at Parks, Tim helped to orchestrate several initiatives. Tim was instrumental in bringing diagnostic laptops and equipment into 5 Boro. Before this, trucks had to be sent to vendors for in-depth diagnostic work. It was beneficial for performing diesel particulate regenerations on diesel trucks. Diesel trucks accumulate soot in the diesel particulate filter that needs to be burned off every so often by allowing the engine to run at high heat. This process is known as regeneration. If delayed, the truck becomes undrivable. In those cases, Parks had previously vended out the needed repairs. Thanks to Tim, those can now be done in-house, saving transport time and money.



More recently, Tim was the driving force behind Parks bringing dielectric safety testing in-house for bucket trucks. Forestry and skilled trades workers use bucket trucks every day. Bucket trucks are insulated to ensure the operator is not harmed if the bucket touches a live wire. It is critical to make sure the insulation is in working order. This insulation is achieved by having a controlled charge of over

100k volts run through the bucket apparatus via a method known as dielectric testing. Tim helped establish an in-house capacity to perform this critical safety and lifesaving test.

While Tim was taking on Parks equipment challenges, his brother Patrick was doing the same at FDNY.

Patrick started as an Auto Service Worker in 1987 at FDNY Fleet and was eventually promoted to Deputy Director of Fleet. For 25 years of his career, Tim was a mechanic on the emergency response crew. Any fire designated with three alarms or higher will have its own emergency mechanic onsite and ready to quickly repair fire apparatus that needs servicing during a response operation.

Patrick has been onsite at some of the most notorious fires in our city's history. Most notably, Patrick was part of the crew that responded to the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Patrick was fortunate to survive that day. Like many at FDNY and in City government, Patrick showed extraordinary service, dedication, and courage. He returned immediately to Ground Zero for the next two weeks, where he and other mechanics worked to get dozens of firefighting units back to drivable so that they could be brought into the truck shop for decontamination and repairs.

Patrick is incredibly proud of his work in the days after that tragedy and his work to honor those who had fallen. Patrick assisted in constructing the 9/11 memorial at FDNY's repair shop in Long Island City. Also, he assisted in building the Caisson, an FDNY pumper that was retrofitted to carry the casket of FDNY members who died in the line of duty. Patrick recalls his time at FDNY Fleet as "the best job he ever had."



"We are pleased that Tim and his brother Patrick are being recognized for their positive contributions to Citywide Fleet Operations," states Brian Aucoin, Chief of Parks Fleet. "Tim Murphy brings an informed, qualitative, safety-first approach to his and his team's work. Tim is reliable, thorough, efficient, consistent, and has a wealth of experience and knowledge. Tim is our point person for pursuing and maintaining numerous essential diagnostic software programs and dielectric testing equipment and implementation, saving our team and agency an extraordinary amount of time and money. Additionally, Tim helps to ensure that our Towing Staff receive comprehensive training and best practices. Tim is a valued team member, and we are happy that his dedication gets the recognition it deserves."

In retirement, Patrick has still been involved in the work he loves, volunteering with his local fire department in Rockland County. As for his brother, Tim loves to watch movies in his free time. Tim considers himself a huge cinephile and has a collection of over 800 films and a home theater system complete with a projector and seating. Public service runs in the Murphy family. Tim's daughter is an elementary school teacher, and his son is a member of the U.S. Air Force currently stationed in South Korea. We at DCAS, FDNY, DEP, Parks, and Citywide thank the whole Murphy family for their public service, technical skill, and commitment to our City.



The City and its union offer **free** flu shots to municipal employees and their families. All employees, dependents, and pre-Medicare retirees eligible for New York City health benefits are covered to receive a flu vaccination at no cost. For information about how you can **fight the flu with free and convenient flu shots**, visit:

on.nyc.gov/wnycflu

VISION ZERO Building a Safer City



Wednesday, October 30th, 2024
Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park

DCAS and Together for Safer Roads invite you to the 2024 Vision Zero Fleet Safety Forum!

The event will bring together leading stakeholders from public and private fleets, innovative safety technology companies, policy experts, and road safety advocates for an exciting day of speeches, panel discussions, and breakout sessions.

Join us as we discuss how to systematically build safety into our roads, vehicles, and fleet operations.

The event is free and includes breakfast and a networking lunch.

Event Schedule:

Networking
breakfast begins:

7:30 a.m.

Program begins:

8:30 a.m.

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10 Years of Vision Zero: Part 5 - Leading by Example



Hear from Eric

The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.

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Week in Review | September 29 - October 5



- After 20 years of prep work, we are fixing a leak in our water system. [The world's largest tunnel is getting a patch and we are securing the future of our water supply!](#)
- Our entire city fleet is now running on [renewable diesel!](#) From ambulances to fire trucks, we've made every vehicle part of the green future of our city.
- [Four international ratings agencies](#), once again, gave us their seal of approval because of our strong fiscal management. This will let us invest even more in the future.

Check out past editions of the Fleet Newsletter

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 472, October 4, 2024:](#) DCAS Completes Renewable Diesel Rollout for Trucks and Off-Road Equipment

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 471, September 20, 2024:](#) Fleet Updates: NY State Inspection Program

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 470, September 13, 2024:](#) Fleet Spotlight: Muhammad Nadeem, Fleet Services

[NYC Fleet Newsletter 469, September 6, 2024:](#) Federal Support of NYC's Fleet Innovation

Check out the [complete archive](#).

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