Citywide Administrative Services | Fleet

NYC FLEET NEWSLETTER

Bill de Blasio, Mayor
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NYCHA's Fleet to Join NYC Fleet Focus

Keith T. Kerman

On June 16, 2014, DCAS and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) executed an agreement through which NYCHA will join the Fleet Federation agencies in using NYC Fleet Focus, the City's new fleet management system.

NYCHA manages 334 public housing developments serving more than 400,000 New Yorkers. NYCHA's fleet of 868 vehicles, including sedans, pickups, vans, and dump trucks, are essential to its operations — they support building, playground, and public space maintenance; skilled trades repair; and emergency response. Fleet operations comprise waste hauling, towing, and the transport of tools, moving supplies, and personnel.

NYCHA also uses more than 2,200 horticultural equipment units, such as weed trimmers, mowers, and snow blowers, which are serviced by its in-house shop at Ash Street in Brooklyn.

DCAS shut down the City's former MCMS fleet system in November 2013, and Fleet Focus went fully operational, helping the City manage and track fleet assets, parts, work orders, and inspections. As part of Vision Zero, we are also quickly completing the roll out of the CRASH module for collision tracking as well as new reporting for defensive driver training and emergency equipment tracking.

While NYCHA, DCAS, and other agencies have cooperated on fleet projects in the past, NYCHA's fleet will now be fully integrated into the citywide fleet system. We look forward to implementing this project and continuing to strengthen this partnership. Thanks to Director of General Services Bat-Sheva Horodniceanu at NYCHA, Deputy Chief Fleet Manager Eric Richardson, and Fleet Focus Systems Manager Alfredo Melian for their work on this agreement.

GM Trains City Mechanics in Natural Gas Systems

Mahanth Joishy

This month, DCAS, DSNY, and General Motors (GM) partnered to conduct training for City mechanics in the servicing and repair of compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles. The training took place from July 8 through 10 at DSNY's Central Repair Shop (CRS). A total of 47 mechanics participated in three separate daylong classes which covered fundamentals of safety and maintenance for CNG vehicles.

The City's fleet has used CNG as part of its alternative fuel portfolio since the mid 1990s. DSNY runs a fleet of 57 CNG collection trucks and sweepers. "The training was a good icebreaker for mechanics to get familiarized with safety and maintenance requirements of CNG," said Spiro Kattan, DSNY SOME for Clean Fuels & Technology. As per the EPA, CNG use can reduce greenhouse gases (CO2) by a quarter and reduce vehicle emissions like carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and nitrogen oxides by 50% or more.

NYC operates three CNG fueling sites in-house, one at DSNY and two at Parks including at Central Park and Flushing Meadows Corona Park. Parks is the other major CNG fleet user with 90 current units. In partnership with DCAS, Parks is also beginning currently to take possession of 49 new CNG cargo and passenger vans from GM, with another 23 vans on their way to DOHMH. This is the City's largest purchase of alternative fuel vans, and complements 63 new plug in electric sedans which have also just arrived and are starting to roll out to multiple agencies.

As we introduce new clean vehicle technologies, we rely on our city mechanics to maintain them and keep them on the road. Thanks to our mechanics for embracing this challenge and to GM for providing the trainings. Special thanks to DCAS Energy for supporting these alternative fuel vehicle purchases.