



**Bill de Blasio, Mayor**  
**Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner**  
**Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer**

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## FLEET LAUNCHES NEW DIESEL EMISSIONS RETROFIT PROJECT

**KEITH T. KERMAN**

DCAS and the DOT Alternative Fuels Unit launched this month a \$2 million program to retrofit City trucks with new diesel particulate filters (DPFs) such as the recent installation shown here. The project is being funded with Federal Clean Air Mitigation Funds (CMAQ) and will focus on 100 trucks from City DEP and Parks.



Local Law 73 of 2013 requires the City to bring 90% of its on-road trucks up to 2007 Federal emissions standards by January 1, 2017. This project will greatly advance that effort. Local Law 73 is the latest in a series of local laws that has aimed to clean diesel tailpipe emissions. In 2003 and 2005, the City passed laws that required best available technology (BAT) to lower emissions on off-road and on-road vehicles respectively. These were leading edge efforts that helped pave the way for later federal regulations.

Since 2003, City fleet agencies have retrofitted 1,864 trucks with some type of improved diesel filtering, whether DPFs or diesel oxidation catalysts (DOCs.) We have also replaced 3,690 older trucks with newer models with DPFs. DPFs achieve up to 90% reduction of harmful truck emissions including particulate matter, hydrocarbons, and soot.

Thanks to Susan McSherry and Mark Simon of DOT, Paris Apollon at Parks, Rebecca Behle at DEP, Jacek Graczyk and Sherry Lee at DCAS who are coordinating this effort.

## SPOTLIGHT: A UNIQUE MENTORSHIP AT FDNY

**ARMENOUSH ASLANIAN-PERSICO**



Our Women's History Month spotlights continue with an exciting development for FDNY and the NYC Fleet Internship program. For the first time, a female Auto Service Worker is mentoring a female high school automotive intern at a City shop. ASW Vanessa Feeley has worked at FDNY's Review Avenue repair shop since September 2013. Vanessa is one of three female technicians in NYC Fleet out of over 900 repair staff. Vanessa has been mentoring Alfred E. Smith High School senior Kaina Cintron.

Since her junior year, Kaina has worked at FDNY approximately 200 hours during school years and six weeks during summers, on top of her academic studies. Kaina assists Vanessa with the entire range of ambulance repairs, including engine diagnostics, tires, lights, wipers, alternators, belts, emissions components, and electrical work. To become an intern, Kaina had to meet rigorous academic, disciplinary, and attendance requirements.

FDNY Fleet Services Supervisor of Mechanics Mike McCann speaks highly of the internship program. "It's nice to find people interested in this field. We try to give the interns a real idea of what it would be like to work here, and we always find something for them to do in their field." Mike says the program benefits everybody and has been well-received. "The mechanics get a helper, and the interns receive education on the equipment."

Approximately 40 high school students are currently working as interns in NYC Fleet facilities, including 15 students from Alfred E. Smith in the Bronx. Bruce Harris and Pete LaFranca manage the school's Work-Based Learning Program with the support of Career and Technical Education Director Rafael Guzman and Principal Evan Schwartz. Bruce says FDNY's training and flexibility is ideal for interns, and the students receive work experience credit for job applications. "It's all about the kids," Bruce says. "These internships give them a great career path." We thank Kaina, Vanessa, the Alfred E. Smith team, and FDNY for their hard work and dedication to this exceptional program.