

# NYC DOT

Employees: 5,852

The New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) is the agency of the government of New York City[2] responsible for the management of much of New York City's transportation infrastructure. Ydanis Rodriguez is the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation, and was appointed by Mayor Eric Adams on January 1, 2022. Their Training Center is located at 140 General R W Berry Dr, Queens, NY 11359, off of Exit 32 of the Cross Island Parkway.

The Department of Transportation's responsibilities include day-to-day maintenance of the city's streets, highways, bridges, sidewalks, street signs, traffic signals, and street lights. DOT supervises street resurfacing, pothole repair, parking meter installation and maintenance, and municipal parking facility management. DOT also operates the Staten Island Ferry. DOT is the exclusive provider of day-to-day operations and maintenance on state-maintained roads and highways in city limits, while major repairs and capital improvements on state-owned roads are performed by the State DOT (NYSDOT). Both DOT and NYSDOT reserve the right to install signage, signals, and other roadway features on state highways, which then become maintained on a daily basis by DOT. DOT sets the speed limit on all roads and highways in the city, including those owned by NYSDOT.

DOT is also responsible for oversight of transportation-related issues, such as authorizing jitney van services and permits for street construction. DOT also advocates for transportation safety issues, including promotion of pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Its regulations are compiled in Title 34 of the New York City Rules.

## Traffic and street lights

The first traffic lights in New York City originated from traffic towers installed along Fifth Avenue in Manhattan in the 1910s.[5] The first such towers were installed in 1920 and were replaced in 1929 by bronze traffic signals.[6] As of June 30, 2011, the DOT oversaw 12,460 intersections citywide with traffic lights.[7] By 2017, the DOT controlled nearly 13,000 signalized intersections, almost all of which had pedestrian signals; of these, over half (7,507) had countdown timers for pedestrians.[8] In addition, 635 signalized intersections under the DOT's control had exclusive pedestrian phases as of 2017.[9]

As of 2019, the DOT maintained 548 accessible pedestrian signals for blind and visually impaired pedestrians.[10] The first such signals were installed in 1957, but few accessible signals were added for the next half-century.[11][12] In 2021, a federal judge ruled that the DOT had to install accessible signals at 9,000 intersections;[12][13] the DOT plans to install these signals through 2031.[14][15] All remaining intersections are planned to have accessible signals by 2036.[15]

The DOT maintains 250,000 streetlamps as of 2019.[16] Most of them are LED lamps, installed between 2013 and 2018.[17]

One of the larger groups of traffic restrictions implemented by the DOT is in Midtown Manhattan, where the DOT maintains a system of "thru streets" and split traffic-signal phases to prevent congestion on west–east streets.[18]

As of 2017, DOT had the budget and staff as follows:[19]

Division	Number of Employees	Budget (millions)
Executive	598	\$116.8
Highway Operations	1492	\$277.8
Transit Operations	694	\$91.8
Traffic Operations	1418	\$353.3
Bureau of Bridges	858	\$106.3
Total	5060	\$943.3

Our agency's work is guided by the [Strategic Plan 2016: Safe - Green - Smart - Equitable](#).

We are **customer-driven in all our activities**. We seek opportunities to **create partnerships in the provision of transportation services through appropriate relationships and alliances**. To accomplish our mission, the Department works to achieve the following goals:

- Provide safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible movement of pedestrians, goods, and vehicular traffic on the streets, highways, bridges, and waterways of the City's transportation network
- **Improve traffic mobility and reduce congestion throughout the City**
- Rehabilitate and maintain the City's infrastructure, including bridges, tunnels, streets, sidewalks, and highways
- Encourage the use of mass transit and sustainable modes of transportation; and
- Conduct traffic safety educational programs

Over 5,500 employees of NYC DOT oversee one of the most complex urban transportation networks in the world. NYC DOT's staff manage an annual operating budget of \$1.4 billion and a ten-year \$33 billion capital program, along with 6,300 miles of streets and highways, over 12,000 miles of sidewalk, and approximately 800 [bridges and tunnels](#), including the iconic East River bridges. NYC DOT's staff also installs and maintains nearly [one million](#)

[street signs](#), [13,250 signalized intersections](#), over [315,000 street lights](#), and over 350 million linear feet of markings.

It should be noted that [certain properties within the jurisdiction of NYC DOT are managed by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation \(NYC Parks\)](#) with permission from NYC DOT. Management of these properties by NYC Parks is temporary and is expressly not intended to create public parks or parkland.

NYC DOT promotes the use of sustainable modes of transportation. NYC DOT designs [bicycle facilities](#), bus lanes, and [public plazas](#). NYC DOT operates the [Staten Island Ferry](#), which served over 12 million million people last year, and oversees ferry operations on City-owned piers. NYC DOT [educates students and adults Citywide about street safety](#). NYC DOT's staff issue [parking permits to people with disabilities](#), not-for-profit agencies and governmental entities, and [commercial vehicle permits for trucks](#); issue construction [permits for work in City streets](#); and manage the City's [Adopt-a-Highway](#) program.

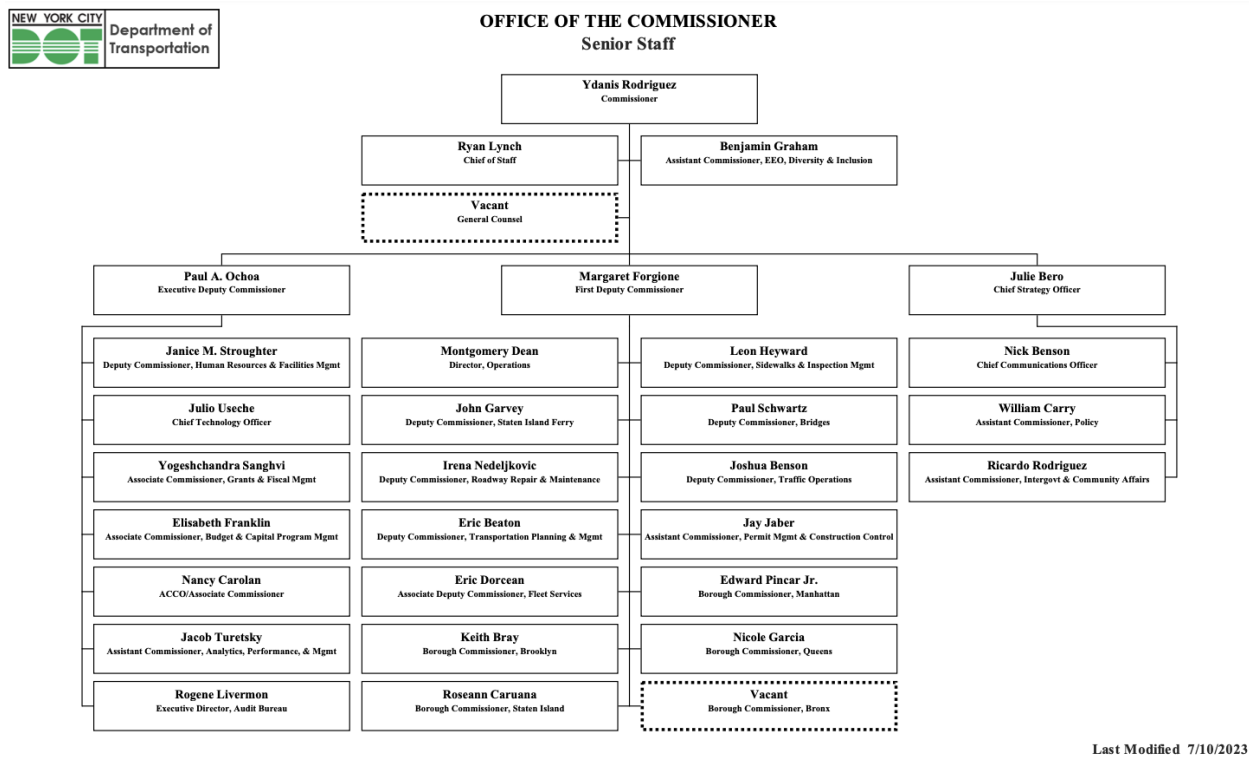
The DOT operates 794 roadway and pedestrian bridges throughout New York City, including 25 movable bridges.[20] The agency's portfolio includes most of the East River and Harlem River bridges, as well as smaller bridges throughout the city. DOT operates two retractable bridges (the Borden Avenue and Carroll Street bridges). Other agencies that operate road bridges in New York include the MTA, the PANYNJ, and the NYSDOT.

### East River bridges:

- Brooklyn Bridge
- Manhattan Bridge
- Williamsburg Bridge
- Queensboro Bridge
- Roosevelt Island Bridge
- Wards Island Bridge

### Harlem River bridges:

- Willis Avenue Bridge
- Third Avenue Bridge
- Madison Avenue Bridge
- 145th Street Bridge
- Macombs Dam Bridge
- Washington Bridge
- University Heights Bridge
- Broadway Bridge



## Ferries

NYC DOT owns and operates the Staten Island Ferry and works with other city agencies and private ferry operators to promote use of our waterways for transportation. Operated by NYC DOT, the Staten Island Ferry provides free,

around-the-clock service between the South Ferry Terminal in Manhattan and St. George Terminal in Staten Island. List of selected sightseeing and tour boat operators:

- NYC Ferry provides New Yorkers an additional way to commute and connect within the five boroughs.
- The Trust for Governors Island runs seasonal ferries from Manhattan and Brooklyn to Governor's Island during the summer. The Manhattan ferry departs from the Battery Maritime Building in Lower Manhattan. Brooklyn service runs from Pier 6 in Brooklyn Bridge Park.
- Liberty Landing Ferry operates between the World Financial Center in NYC and Jersey City, NJ. In New Jersey, the ferry makes stops at Liberty Landing Marina in Liberty State Park and Warren Street before returning to the World Financial Center.
- New York Waterway runs a number of routes between New Jersey and Manhattan.
- NY Water Taxi operates shuttle service between Pier 11 and Ikea in Redhook, Brooklyn. NY Water Taxi also operates all day access pass hop-on-hop off service.
- Seastreak operates service between Monmouth County in New Jersey and New York City, as well as seasonal service to Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket in the summer.
- Statue Cruises operates excursion service to the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island Immigration Museum.
- Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises operates tours circumnavigating Manhattan, and abbreviated landmark tours, with departures from Pier 83 at West 42nd Street on the Hudson River and Pier 16 at the South Street Seaport on the East River.



← Map from NYC Ferry

## Projects

NYC DOT presents many projects at community board meetings where the public may ask questions and provide feedback. If you have questions, comments or concerns please contact the NYC DOT Borough Commissioners. Pursuant to NYC Administrative Code §19-182.2, NYC DOT created a standard checklist of safety-enhancing street design elements that the department must consider for all major transportation projects (MTP).

## DOT in My Neighborhood

[Chinatown connections](#): the DOT will (knock on wood) open up the connection between Chinatown and the Financial District through Park Row, which was closed after 9/11. CB1 has been advocating for this reopening for a while now. The issues I am concerned about include a dangerous intersection on which my dad and I were

almost hit by a car due to its poor design. Also, I care about congestion. Here is a recent photo I took of congestion on Park Row right in front of City Hall:

