



Local Construction Alert Program

You are invited to participate in a study entitled **Local Construction Alert Program** that is being conducted by **Manny, Kehan, Brian, Accardo** for the course SENG 310, Human-Computer Interaction. The course instructor is Dr. Miguel Nacenta, Department of Computer Science, nacenta@uvic.ca.

As undergraduate students, we are required to conduct research as part of the requirements for a degree in Computer Science/Software Engineering. It is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Miguel Nacenta, a Faculty Member in the department of Computer Science at the University of Victoria. You may contact my supervisor at nacenta@uvic.ca.

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this research project is to get user data on their experiences with road delays and construction. As well as to gauge areas where users commonly are delayed due to construction. Then find out how they mitigate potential delays to their commute and their experiences around it as users.

- Find out how people learn about local construction
- Help us compare which notification system is more acceptable to users, so as to improve the efficiency of website information notification.
- Learn about user difficulties around finding local construction delays along their local commute.
- Find what alternatives are available for finding information about local construction.
- Learn about what often causes delays to users' daily commute and how they try to prevent this.

Importance of this Research

Research of this type is important because the feedback will guide the design of a system that meets real-world commuter needs.

- Help us understand how commuters currently access road information and what information they find most useful in their daily lives.
- By collecting user feedback through interviews and surveys, we aim to identify pain points in existing road problem information systems and discover user preferences to ensure that the final platform meets users' real needs.

Participants Selection

- You have been selected to participate in this study because
 - You are a citizen of the City of Victoria.
 - You are a person who frequently drives in the Greater Victoria region.
 - You have experience with road delays and construction in the Greater Victoria region.
- Participation in this project is entirely voluntary.

- Whether you choose to participate or not will have no effect on your position [e.g. employment, class standing] or how you will be treated.

What is involved

If you consent to voluntarily participate in this research, your participation will include :

- [Participate in an interview and provide data related to your experience]

Examples:

- **Interview:**
- Answer questions on your experience while driving under heavy traffic caused by road constructions. Questions may also include experiences around finding information online or through other means about construction and commute delays.
- **Duration:** Approximately 10 minutes
- **Where:** Interviews will be an in-person interview at UVic campus or conducted remotely
- **Inconvenience:** *None beyond dedicating approximately 10 minutes to this study*
- **Ethnography:**
- Being observed while asked to plan their local commute and their experience searching for local construction plans that impact them. The photos and videos only need to demonstrate your interaction with the technology and **must not** capture any personal identifiers such as your face.
- **Duration:** Approximately 20 minutes
- **Sharing Instruction:**
 - Example: You will share your videos and photos by emailing us at: xxx
 - Example: You will upload your data to our google drive folder found here: <link>
- **Inconvenience:** *None beyond dedicating approximately 20 minutes to this study*

Please be advised that information about you that is gathered for this research study uses an online program located in the U.S. (e.g., Zoom, Skype, Google Forms) or a program that can be accessed from the US. As such, there is a possibility that (non-identifiable) information about you may be accessed without your knowledge or consent by the US government in compliance with the US Freedom Act.

Risks

There are no known or anticipated risks to you by participating in this research.

When participating in-person, participants must recognize that the level of risk of certain communicable diseases, including COVID-19, may elevate from time to time or on a seasonal basis. This may occur at a local or regional level or within a workplace. Thus, we will follow UVic's recommendations for managing risks and therefore require participants to conduct health self-assessment and notify us if they are not feeling well so the study can be cancelled or rescheduled. In addition, when participating in the study on campus we request participants to wash hands regularly or use hand sanitizers, and covering mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. More detailed suggestions for managing risks can be found in the UVic CD plan: <https://www.uvic.ca/ohse/assets/docs/rtc/uvic-communicable-disease-plan.pdf>

Participants will be advised if they have or may have come into contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19. Contact information for participants will be stored in a separate file from research data in the event that follow up is needed.

Benefits

The potential benefits of your participation in this research include helping us generate new design guidelines for people who create interfaces, and help us improve the interface we'll design for our website and notifications that benefit local travelers.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research must be completely voluntary. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. If you do withdraw from the study your data will be permanently erased and removed from all analysis by removing all documents associated to your identity.

Anonymity

In terms of protecting your anonymity, you will not provide identifiable information such as your name thus the data we collect is anonymous. If the photos and videos you provide accidentally show your face, we will blur or cut it out of the frame during analysis and presentations.

Confidentiality

We will not store any identifiable information.

Dissemination of Results

It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in class presentation, coursework report and will be documented on a website hosted on local UVic server. In addition, if the research findings are of publishable quality, the students and the instructor can decide to use the results in a scientific, peer-reviewed publication.

Disposal of Data

- Within one month of the end of the course, students will delete the raw data and confirm their action by sending me an email acknowledging that they have indeed deleted all the raw data.
- The data hosted on UVic server will be deleted one month after the end of the course.

Contacts

Individuals that may be contacted regarding this study include the researchers and supervisors listed at the beginning of this document.

In addition, you may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria (250-472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca).

By completing and submitting the questionnaire, **YOUR FREE AND INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPLIED** and indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study and that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers.

Please retain a copy of this letter for your reference.