



**University
of Victoria**

Letter of Information for Implied Consent

[Construction Alert System Usability Study]

You are invited to participate in a study entitled **Construction Alert System Usability Study** that is being conducted by **[Kehan Wang, Brian Raimondo, Accardo Cheng, Manny Dhesi]** 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 test **the usability of the interface of our medium fidelity prototype**. This includes getting users to complete different task descriptions to evaluate the flow of the **proposed interface of our Construction Alert System website**. This will allow us to address any potential deficits and re-evaluate certain features of our system prior to creating a high fidelity prototype.

- **Example: Get users to create an account and sign up for construction alerts on our website.**
- **Example: Allow users to receive the construction alerts by their preferred method and plan their commute accordingly.**

Importance of this Research

Research of this type is important because this feedback will inform our ongoing improvements to the medium-fidelity prototype to better address the practical needs of commuters.

- Identifying which design elements help users quickly find road construction information without feeling overwhelmed.
- Understanding user preferences for how notifications and updates should be displayed on mobile devices.
- Gathering insights into how users interact with features like time selection menus or navigation bars, so we can refine their usability.

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:

- [Test our prototype and provide constructive feedback]
- Example: Trying out our prototype interface and talking to us about what you liked and didn't like. We would also like to learn from you about any suggestions for improving our prototype interface. Answering a few follow-up questions about your experience to help us better understand your expectations as a commuter.
- **Duration:** Approximately 20 minutes
- **Location:** of your choice (online or in person)
- **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. or a program that can be accessed from the US (Google Forms). 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 helping us improve and finalize the interface design for our website, which aims to help local travelers deal with construction issues.

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 shows your face, we will blur or cut it out of the frame during analysis and presentations**

Confidentiality

We will not store any identifiable information, given that the survey is anonymous.

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.