DRIVE THE VOTE

CONDUCE TU VOTO

FREE RIDES TO THE POLLS
www.drive.vote

WHY?
Recent studies have shown that reducing travel costs for in-person voters can mobilize more voters. [1]

WHAT?
Drive the Vote is a tool that connects potential voters who need *free* rides with volunteer drivers and *gets the voters to the polls.*

HOW?

1. Voter sends an SMS to a dedicated local number when they need to go vote, or signs up in advance.
2. DtV bot collects information from the voter about where they need to be picked up, and helps determine their polling place (e.g. integration with Google polling place lookup).
3. The DtV driver mobile app alerts drivers when there is a ride request in their zone, and the drivers accept the rides.
4. A local volunteer dispatcher watches to ensure no voter ride requests are overlooked, and actively assigns voters to drivers if necessary.

Drive the Vote consists of four main parts:

Landing Page
A signup page for volunteer drivers and ride requests.
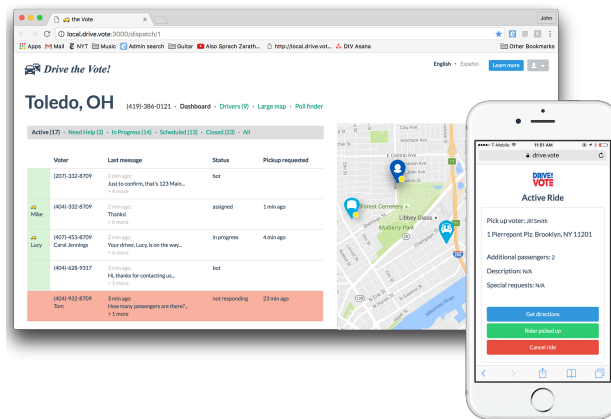
For voters
An SMS bot which collects information like pickup addresses from voters.

For dispatchers
A dispatch app which local organizers can use to text with voters and dispatch rides directly and to monitor the system.

For drivers
An app for drivers to let them receive ride requests and coordinate with voters and dispatchers.

Development on all parts of the system is nearly completed, and the Drive the Vote team is committed to fully supporting local organizers to ensure the app fits into their existing processes and helps to maximize their GOTV efforts. DtV is a Ruby on Rails 5 application, with a Postgres backend and client-side JavaScript, including React.

The team (so far):
John McGrath, Gerald Huff (dev leads), Adam McAmis, Nick Messick (developers), Mike Migurski (maps), Jason Kunesh, Jesse Kriss, Kerry Rodden (UX), Ryan Schroeder (design), Carrie Barnes, Divya Nair (outreach and marketing), and Brady Kriss (user success/support/ training).

1. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/4790837_Distance_Turnout_and_the_Convenience_of_Voting
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/255661655_Location_knowledge_and_time_pressures_in_the_spatial_structure_of_convenience_voting

Drivers

Dispatcher

Voters

Sign up in advance

Interacts with voters, assigns drivers to rides

Sign up in advance

Drive The Vote Database

Mobile app to find rides

Bot gathers information

SMS to request a ride