





PROBLEM



No intelligent system to ensure that riders are provided with a contactless experience at the rental booths.



STATISTICS

2016 2019 2020

Figure: Torontonians travelling to work using bicycles

During COVID, cycling has been more popular than public transit and the number of city dwellers considering cycle as a mode of transportation to work has been on the rise.

625

rental locations in Toronto with no contactless payment experience available

SOLUTION

Using the PEDAL app users can



Book/cancel ride online

Unlock ride remotely using the app generated pass-key

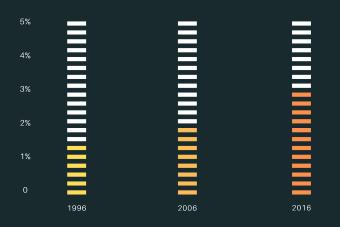


Take a photo wearing the personal protective essentials listed on the app; to verify health and safety guidelines have been met.

overview

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS CANADA

Commuting to work by cycle has increased significantly over the last 10 years



Cycling is one of the fastest growing transportation modes in Toronto with the popularity of bike-sharing among millennials increasing significantly over the last few years.

According to the latest Census, 2.7 percent of Torontonians bike to work (city-wide average), up from 1.7 percent in 2006, with some downtown neighbourhoods in the range of 15 to 30 percent. A year of counts reveals over 1 million rides on the Bloor bike lanes, making them one of North America's busiest bikeways.

The PEDAL app is for users who make bike-sharing part of their pulse for a healthy lifestyle. User experience is a crucial element to the brand's success; so the PEDAL app offers a rider-centric bike-sharing experience with features that work in sync to make roaming around one's favourite city safe, convenient, easy, and environment-friendly.

problem statement

In Toronto, bike-sharing riders have to rent in person, often leading to bike unavailability when they reach the rental booth. During COVID, visiting the rental booths in person is exposing the riders to up-close human interactions. Although the existing apps such as - Bike Share Toronto, Toronto Bike have road safety regulation tutorials for riders, there is no active automated system to administer or ensure that riders are provided with a contactless service or riders are genuinely following the health and safety guidelines while riding their cycle.

problem scenario...

Less safer UX

During COVID, using the rental kiosks for payments make the onboarding process less safe by exposing the users to the risk of getting infected with COVID through physical contact with the payment machines/terminals.

Inconvenient UX

Competitor apps only show road safety and regulations during the onboarding process. They do not update or inform the users of the health safety protocols at all.

Non-compliant users

Not all riders are complying with the health and safety regulations by riding too close to each other or in a group, causing the COVID virus to spread.

context

What

The research will focus on understanding what features Torontonians expect from a bike-sharing app during a pandemic.

Why

Because it is important to know what type of usability matter the most to Torontonians while using a bike-sharing app during COVID.

How

Perform qualitative, quantitative, and evaluative research as well as take interviews of 20 Torontonians aged between 16-60 years.

Strength

BCycle

- Bikes can be unlocked using the app
- Faster checkout for registered app users

nextbike

- Provides latest news and info on bike laws
- User can look-up rental history

Cycle Now

- "Take me home" option
- Show availability based on geo-location
- Track and notify availability

COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS

BCycle

- Only members receive full access to app features
- In-app Ads provides unwanted UX

nextbike

- No e-mail registration allowed
- Requires Payment info for full access

Cycle Now

Weakness

- Cannot access user rental history
- Unwanted Ads run during app usage
- Digital unlocking available at kiosk not in the app



App Ratings







4.7

App Name	BCycle	nextbike	Cycle Now
Features	 Sign-up/Login Station Map Availability Info Pricing Info Digital Unlocking Online Support 	 Sign-up/Login Map View Bike Selection Rental History Pricing Info Online Support Member Perks 	 Network Selection Show Availability Track Availability Night-Mode Save Favourite
Platforms	iOS, Android	iOS, Android	iOS, Android
Price	Free	Free	Free
In-app Purchases	Yes	No	Yes
In-App Ads	Yes	No	Yes
Downloads	100,000+	1 million+	10,000+
		A	

3.3

4.5

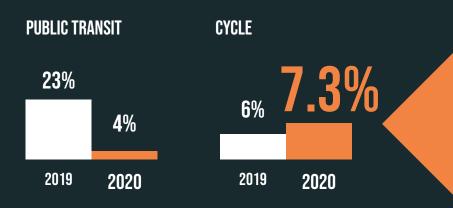


Figure: Percentage of resident's mode of transportation to work

Source: Statistics Canada 2020

There are 625 locations across Toronto where users can rent cycles, and payment is made through touch-screen machines or touchpad credit terminals.

Source: Bike Share Toronto website

COVID-19 has changed the way riders commute. **More commuters now prefer to use bike to work** than take public transit.

Cycling Canada has asked cyclists to wear a mask and maintain distance from other cyclists to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Source: Canadian Cycling Magazine, 2020

ux research

Factors that shaped our service features



ux research

Factors that shaped our service features

Cyclists have to stay much farther than 6 feet from a rider in front of them to avoid inhaling respiratory droplets or having them land on our bodies. Atleast, 65 feet is needed when riding a bike at 30 kms. per hour. By that time, the droplets will have moved down to the ground and won't get in our face.

Source: Dr. Bert Blocken, Eindhoven University of Technology

Number of respondents: 20

Has the pandemic changed your perception about cycling?

- 35% of respondents have moved from taking public transit to cycling for work since the pandemic.
- 40% of respondents living in downtown Toronto have confirmed that they consider cycling to work in the future.
- Rush hour traffic and lineups for public transit are making 25% of respondents interested in cycling instead.

Number of respondents: 20

Important safety features to have in a bike-sharing app during COVID?

- 65% of respondents prefer a feature that would remind the users to take protective health measures before the start of the ride.
- 40% of respondents want to have a contactless feature that would allow users to pay and unlock the ride remotely.

Number of respondents: 20

When it comes to bike rentals, how do you feel about online payment and remote unlocking?

- 7% of respondents thought their ride can get stolen by the time they reach the booth after unlocking remotely.
- 3% were not too excited about the feature.



Users believe these features will save time and effort

Number of respondents: 20

Sharing your picture time-to-time with the app for health and safety verification is something that you will be comfortable with?

- All respondents were comfortable with this feature for the sake of health concerns as long as their privacy is not compromised.
- 10% of the respondents raised concerns about how this sort of verification process should take place in between stops and not during an active ride.

The PEDAL app will save time and reduce human effort by utilizing efficient and intelligent features that do most of the work contactless. The app will allow online payments for rentals, and once the booking is confirmed, the users can unlock their ride remotely using a pass-key generated through the app. Thus, providing the user with a contactless experience. Besides, the app's onboarding process will verify time-to-time during a ride to ensure that users have taken all mandatory health and safety precautions before and while riding to reduce the spread of COVID.



user person

BB

An app that allows contactless payment, remote unlocking, and health verification; sounds like my kind of an app.



Irina De Silva, 25, DATA ANALYST
Independent, Active, Values time, Tech-savvy
Home & Office: Downtown Toronto Area

Goals



- Never be late at work.
- Save time and reduce effort through service apps.
- Follow health-safety protocols while travelling.

Frustrations



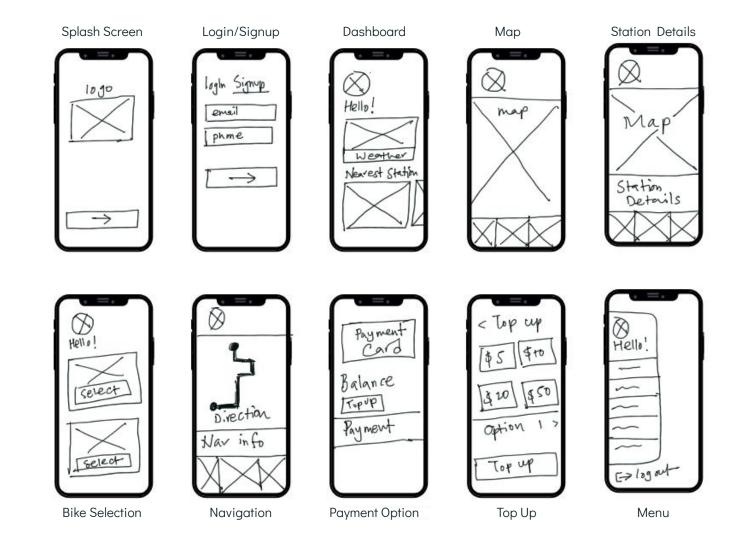
- Unwanted surface contact at the bike rental payment counters
- Wait for public transit to commute to work.
- Avoid public transit crowd due to pandemic crisis.
- Health safety protocols not verified by existing apps.

A 6-STEP PROCESS

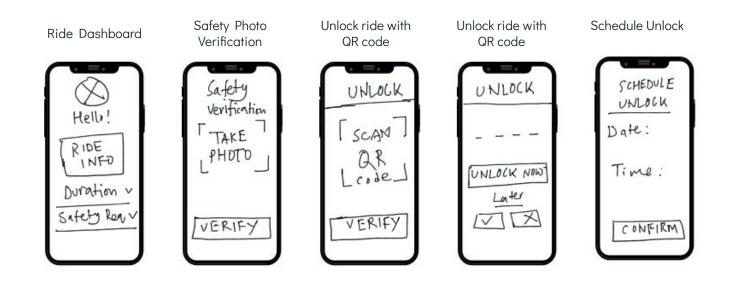


Landing Screen Enter Login Info Sign-up Login Register Tutorial Home Geomap Menu Select Station **Check Availability** My Wallet Select pick-up and Display nearby docks and Ride History drop-off options available bike info Search Map Payment Form Review and Submit About Payment Confirmation with Settings 4-digit pass key Unlock bike using pass key Logout Screen Logout or QR code

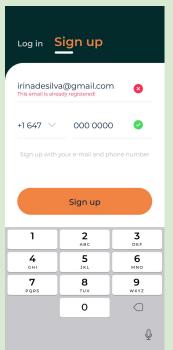
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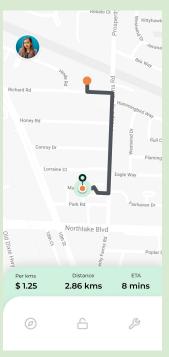


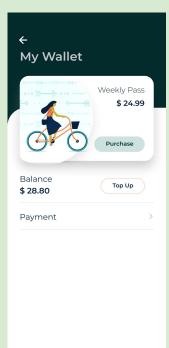




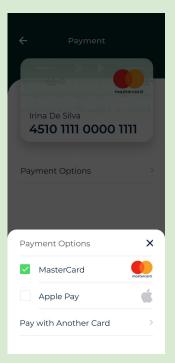


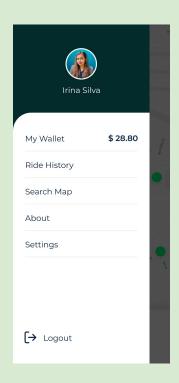


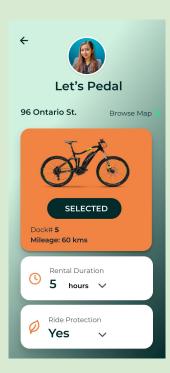


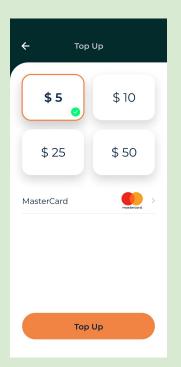


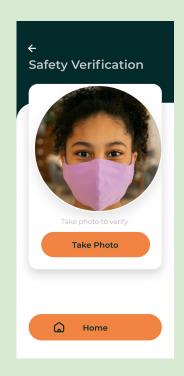








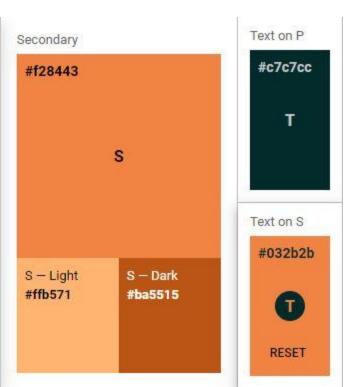














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design system typography

heading

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