

Comparative Analysis

Buglist:

1. Cannot accurately predict time from the door to the bus/train station. If a user is at the 25th floor of the building, then the time to leave should definitely be earlier than someone from 1st floor. Current app seems not to capture this info; The height info of the destination seems to be omitted.
2. For our use case of daily public transit rider, there aren't many solution that provides event-centric route planning. Users cannot see an overview of all routes of a day.
3. The app with an calendar view does not have an ideal interface. As it contains very rich content, the clean and clear information hierarchy is the key.
4. No procrastinator-friendly solution yet
5. interface is overwhelmed, as the all transit schedules are heavily color-coded.
6.

Idea list:

1. Showing progress bar - track if use are behind the schedule
2. Showing "rise info" of start/end locations
3. audio prompt on the go
4. Showing probability of delays learned from history data
5. Rain Safe
6. Subway/light rail: "Which-car-to-take" Recommendation
- ...

Google Map

- Google Maps makes navigating your world faster and easier. Find the best places in town and the information you need to get there.
- 7. One of the mostly used app for route searching and navigation.
- 8. It visualizes the route congestion status color-coded by red, yellow and green.
- 9. It provides navigation for driving and walking solutions. No navigation feature for public transport.
- 10. It has a save to calendar feature, however it is not prominent.



City Mapper

<https://citymapper.com/chicago>

- The ultimate transit app for complex cities!
- 1. Pro - provide thorough multiple agents of public transportation that is city-specific.
- 2. Pro - real-time departure schedule, line status and disruption alerts
- 3. Pro - very coherent visual design and branding
- 4. Showing calories and CO2 for each solutions.
- 5. bottom tab to quickly access the current trip. [Important]



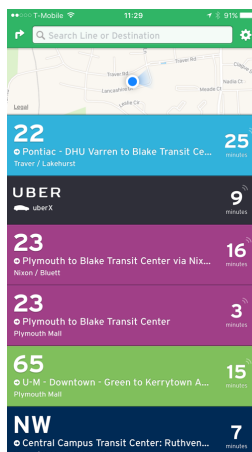
Horizon

- (You keep an eye on your calendar, we'll keep an eye on the weather.)

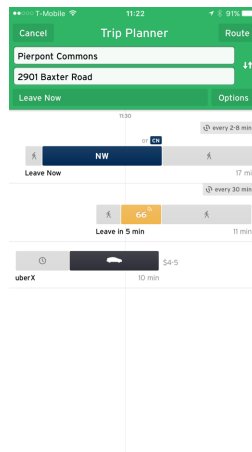
1. A calendar App that gears toward weather.
2. When adding a new event, the calendar will show the weather for the event time accordingly.
3. A pro version of the app provides “Weather Change Notifications”.
4. It also includes an travel time item in creating a new calendar event. Users can include the travel time manually in the new event created. However, it only has options including : 5 minutes, 15 minutes, 30 minutes, 1 hour, 1.5 hour and 2 hours.

Transit

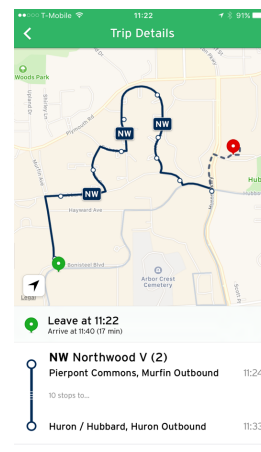
- A app that we use in Ann Arbor, but could also be used in other cities.
1. Transit is a smart phone app (IOS version) that allow the user to plan their journey across the city by utilizing both school bus and city bus. The app’s home page shows the potential bus’s departure time around users’ location and usually, users type in the destination they want to go and select the suitable line, the app will show the trip in detail and help the user to get to the right bus stop. Figure 2 presented the detail interface of the system.



(a)Home Page



(b) Trip Planner



(c) Trip Details

2. Strength:
 - Allow the user to plan the trip more flexibly by utilizing both the school bus and the city bus
 - Users get notification when the ride is approaching

- Track the bus's location on live map and get real bus approaching time prediction from The Ride

3. Problems:

- The bus line showed in Trip Planner did not cover all the bus line, for instance, from figure 2, it shows that NW is the only blue bus line to UMTRI, while there's still at least 10 minute's walk after taking the bus, yet in fact, there's more than two different blue bus line that will drop the passenger much more closer to UMTRI (within 3 minute's walk at most), and they didn't show on the Transit. This will decrease user's trust in the APP, especially with places users are not familiar with and hope the APP can show them the right bus directly take them to the bus stop
- Some functions in the app are not institute to use, such as setting up the alarm, and checking the timing for the right bus, especially for city bus, because city bus has two different direction with different stops, it will cause more confusion for first time users and people who are not familiar with the city bus line in Ann Arbor.
- Limited to mobile application, no computer version or text message.

Exit Strategy

- An app that provides thorough exit suggestions for fast route transfer

Pro: In city like NYC, it is one of the features that is very much needed to avoid running into the crazy crowds. Its review in App Store also proved that this function is very welcomed by people

Con: It is not updating since long that the data in the app is outdate. [Opportunity]

Others



- **Travalarm**

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.travalarm.app>

Thursday, May 11, 2017

(did not implement the feature)

- **TripGo**

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.buzzhives.android.tripplanner&hl=en>

(bottom bar: trips, agenda, favourite, profile)

- **mTRO NYC**

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/mtro-nyc-new-york-subway-map/id408621105?mt=8>