

## **Project Executive Summary: Cityzen Mobile**

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### **Overview:**

Cityzen has developed a new way for city governments (such as Raleigh) to incorporate the opinions of constituents who are not typically the most vocal (most importantly, young voters). The Cityzen web application allows local governments to directly release polls to constituents concerning current issues and projects. These polls are distributed locally and users are then able to give input with ease from their computer, without attending events such as town halls or committee meetings. Cityzen's ultimate impact is to create a more cohesive community in which everyone's opinions can be heard and valued, ideally resulting in the creation of better, more useful projects which benefit a larger subset of constituents.

Cityzen Mobile serves to connect users to Cityzen's web service via location-driven push notifications. The mobile app will serve as an interface between the mobile user and the web service, which contains the majority of the functionality. The application's value lies in its ability to actively engage users within a more personalized polling system (receipt of polls and updates are based on the user's GPS location [or preset zip code] and user's interest preferences). This takes the burden of continued engagement off the user by placing the active responsibility of user-service interaction on the service itself.

### **User Experience:**

1. Download Cityzen Mobile
2. Greeted by a splash screen containing the Cityzen logo
3. When the main page loads, log in or sign up on the app
  1. User info is saved by the device until explicitly logged out
4. On subsequent visits to the mobile app, the user will be able to do any of the following:
  1. open their profile
  2. view notifications which link to polls on the webpage
  3. view the "about" page on the web
5. When the user is not actively using the application, Cityzen Mobile will run in the background and trigger OS-level notifications that will take users to the application where they will select the poll they wish to vote on.

### **Secondary Goals:**

1. Instead of transporting users to the browser to vote, users will be able to directly respond to polls from within the app
2. Users will be able to update their (e.g. parks and rec, sanitation, children, etc.) through the web page, so they only receive polls about matters that they are interested in.

### **Technical Considerations:**

- Development Platform: Cordova/PhoneGap - Since the primary goal of Cityzen Mobile is to reach as many constituents as possible, cross-platform functionality and accessibility will be valued more highly than the native app experience.
- UI Framework: Ionic, a library of customizable UI pages that easily integrated with PhoneGap, will be used to make for a cleaner, more straightforward user experience
- External APIs: This app will integrate with Google, Facebook, and Twitter for the purpose of logins and user storage.
- External costs: All current databases are attached to and/or upheld by Cityzen, and should therefore incur no external costs

## GUI draft:

