



# Digital Democracy: **Interactive Medium-Fi Prototype**

Sharewaves

Garrick F. | Gen S. | Grace W.



**Garrick**

Coterm, CompSci  
*fergalicious def*



**Gen**

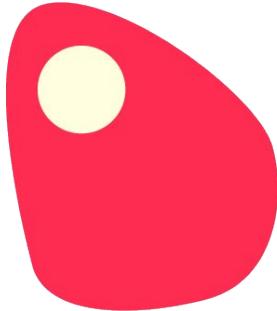
Senior, SymSys  
*shakira, shakira*



**Grace**

Senior, Econ  
*soulja boy tell 'em!*

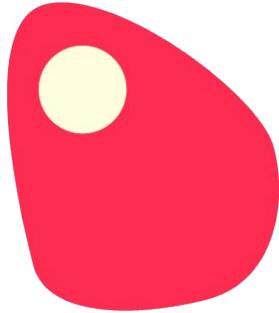
Our mission is to help people harness the activation energy from reading and sharing news into getting involved with political issues in their own communities.



## **The Problem**

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Online communities, discourse, and news divide and isolate people, leaving them feeling hopeless, unenergized, and without clear ways to participate in politics.



## The Solution

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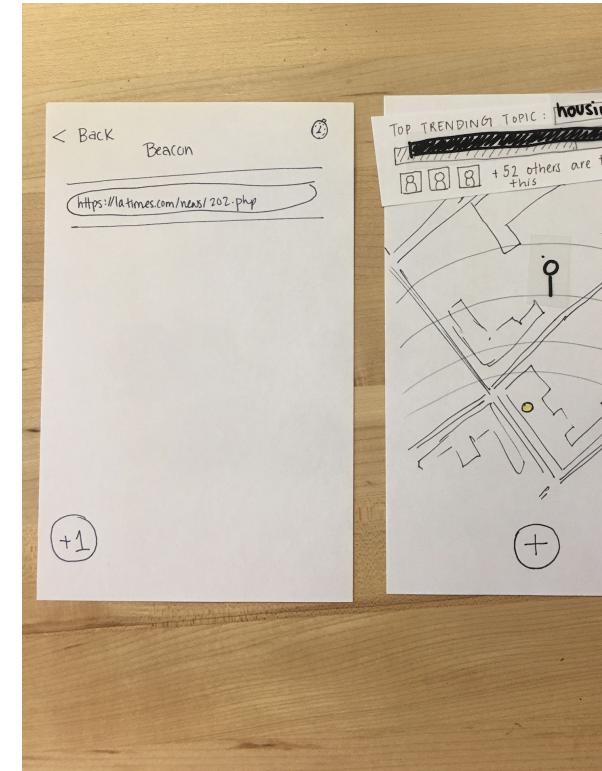
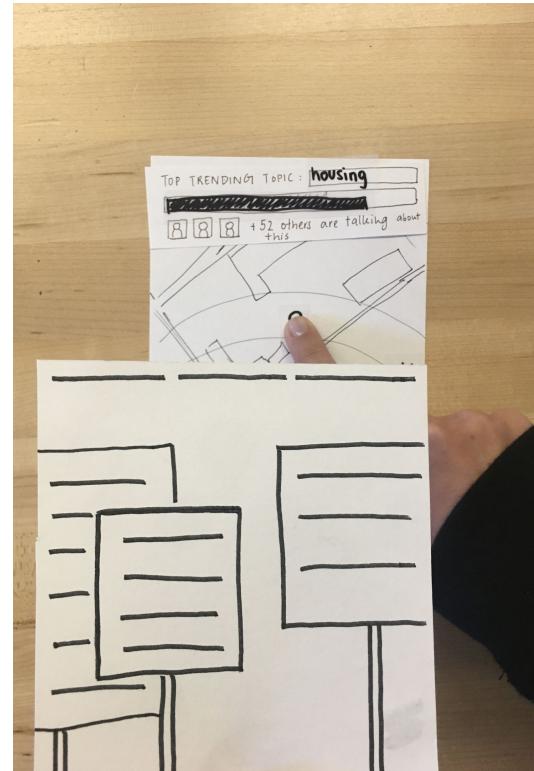
We provide a platform for people to rally around stories they care about, see people like them, and *get offline*—sparking political conversation and action in their communities.



see the change, be the change

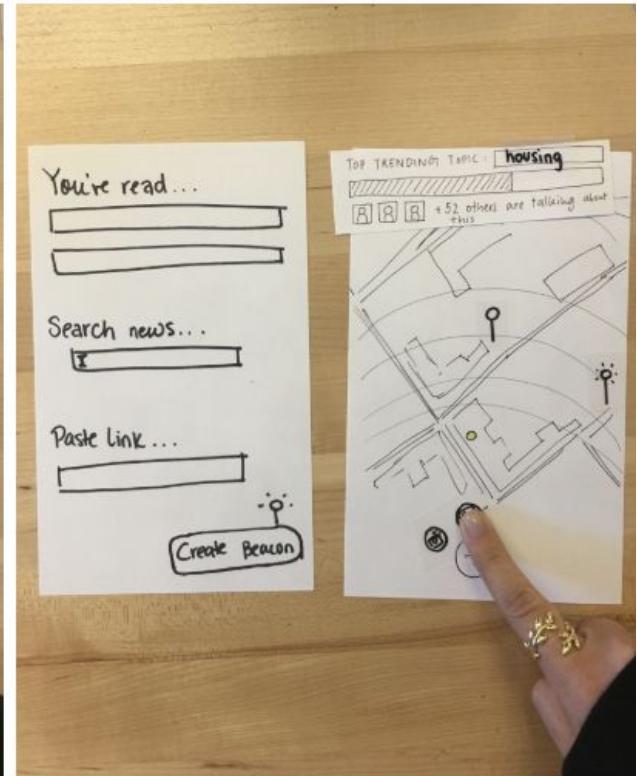
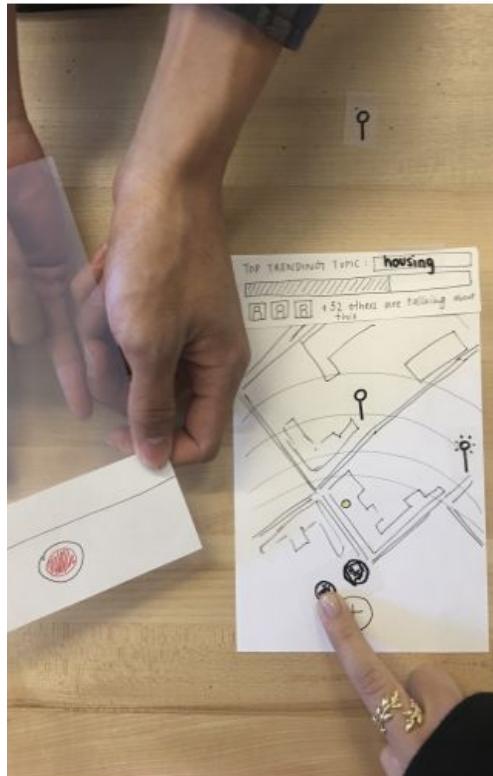
## Simple task: discover nearby stories

Users click on a pin on the map to open either a video or a news story shared by nearby users.



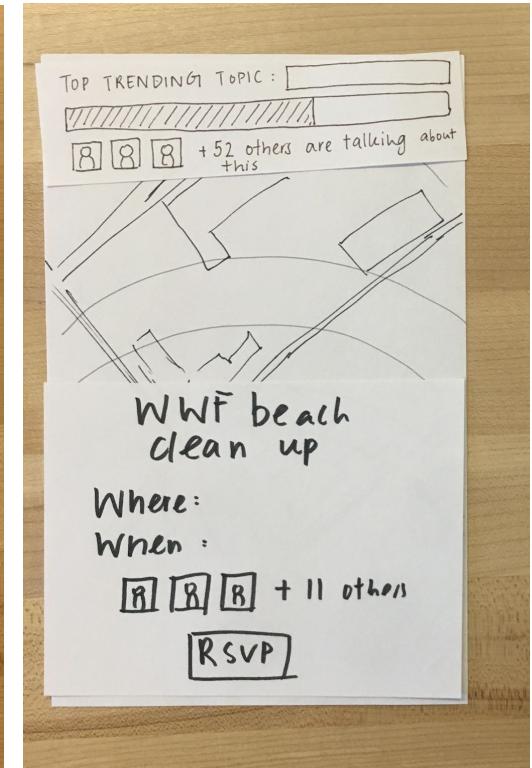
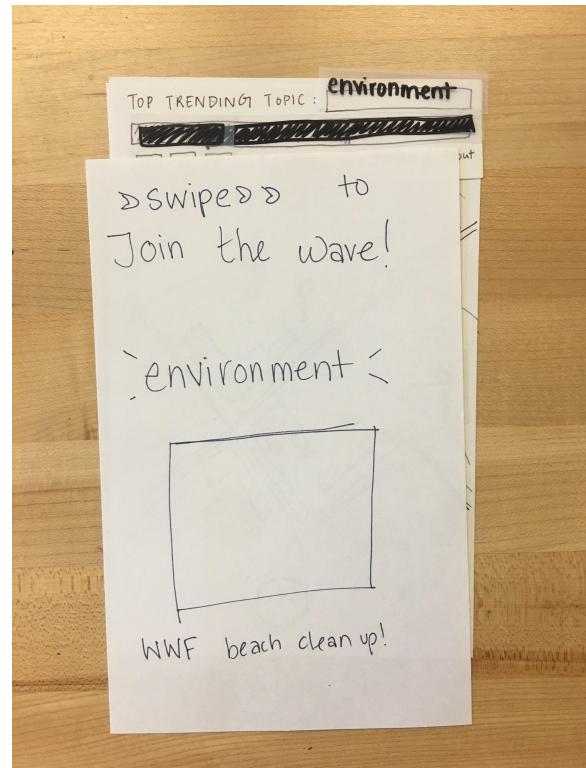
## Medium task: share your stories

Users can click on the '+' button and choose to share either a video or a news story.



## Complex task: spark offline activity

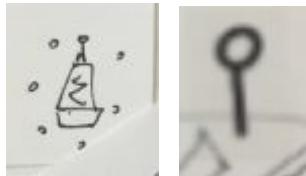
When there is high levels of interest in a particular theme, users can learn more about and participate in offline political activity.



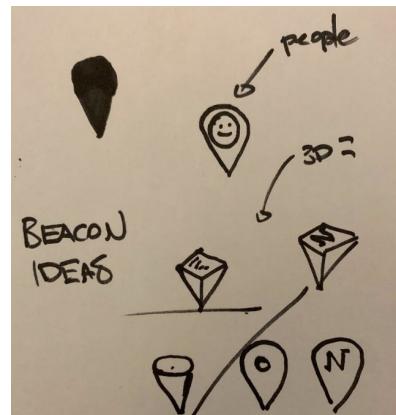
# Major Design Changes: Pin

We decided to ideate on the pin idea since we received feedback that our pin could convey more information (e.g. if the pin represented a video or a news story).

Low-fi



Ideation



Med-fi



Generic pin



Pin to show news



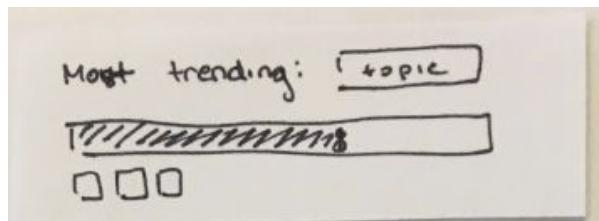
Pin to show video

# Major Design Changes: Trending bar

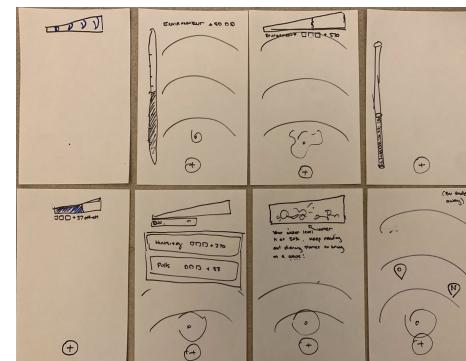
Our low-fi bar caused confusion among participants. People weren't sure what the bar represented, or thought it represented progress in a game.

We wanted to better communicate the idea of 'riding the wave' of interest in a topic, and let users click on the bar and explore different trending topics.

Low-fi



Ideation



Med-fi

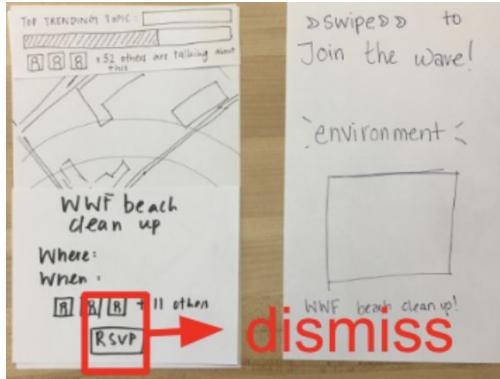


# Major Design Changes: Ride the Wave Screen

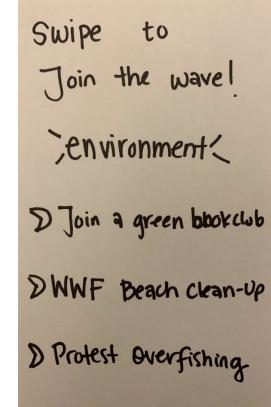
People were suspicious of our pop-up “Ride the Wave” screen, which showed just one event.

In our med-fi prototype, we allowed users to choose from several different options with varying levels of engagement.

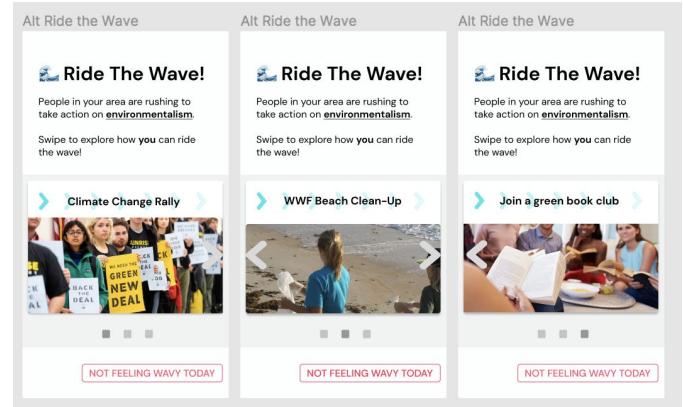
## Low-fi



## Ideation



## Med-fi



# Medium-Fi Prototype Task Flows

# Simple task: discover nearby stories

ENVIRONMENT ▾ +1560 others

More about this source...

**Amazon Rainforest Burning**

Dark clouds of smoke smothered cities in Brazil as parts of the Amazon burned at a rate not seen in years, and....

Shared by Anonymous Dolphin

READ

www.bbc.co.uk/amazon-rainforest.html

16:30 11 Oct  
What's the latest with the fires in Brazil?  
Roland Hughes  
BBC News

The fires in the Amazon have been dampened - but it's not the only area under threat.  
[Read more >](#)

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6:40 9 Oct  
UK fast food 'linked to Brazilian forest fires'  
Jim Reed and Joseph Lee  
Victoria Derbyshire programme

Greenpeace asks fast-food chains to stop selling meat from animals fed on soya from Brazil.  
[Read more >](#)

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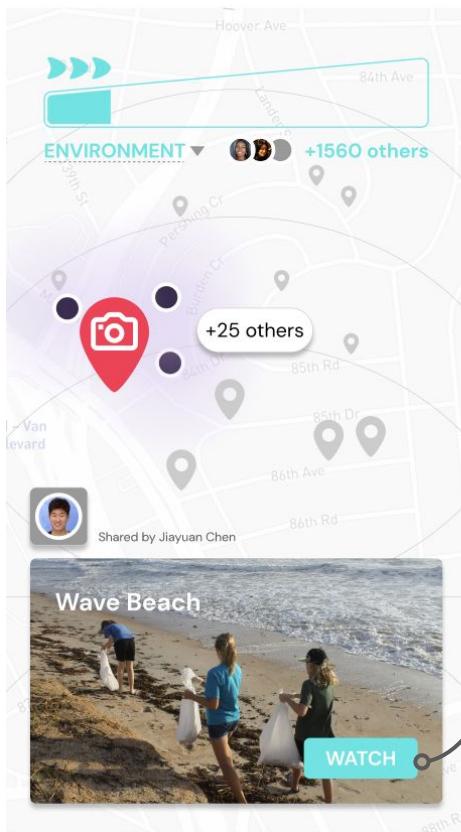
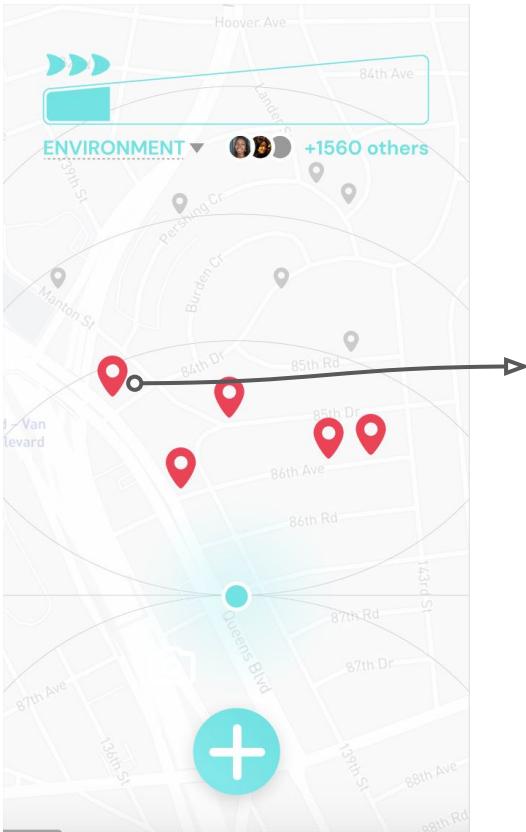
9:35 7 Oct  
Could the Pope say 'yes' to married priests?  
Lebo Diseko  
BBC News

Priests and bishops will discuss whether to allow married priests in remote parts of the Amazon.  
[Read more >](#)

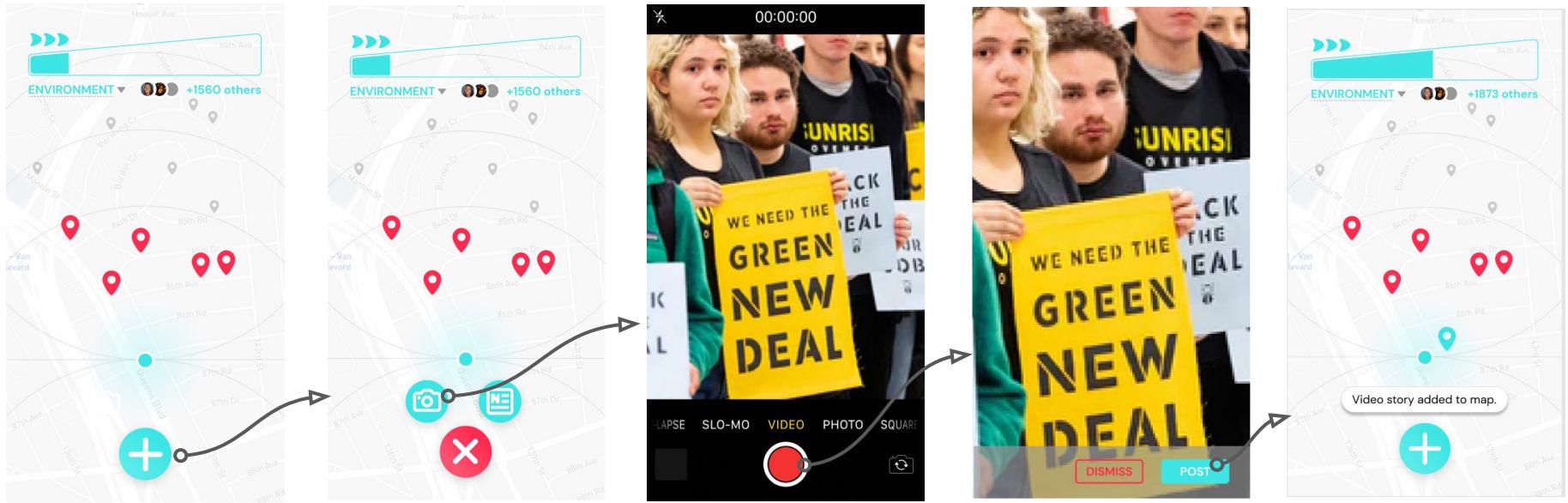
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3:43 7 Oct  
Brazil has done 'excellent job' on the Amazon

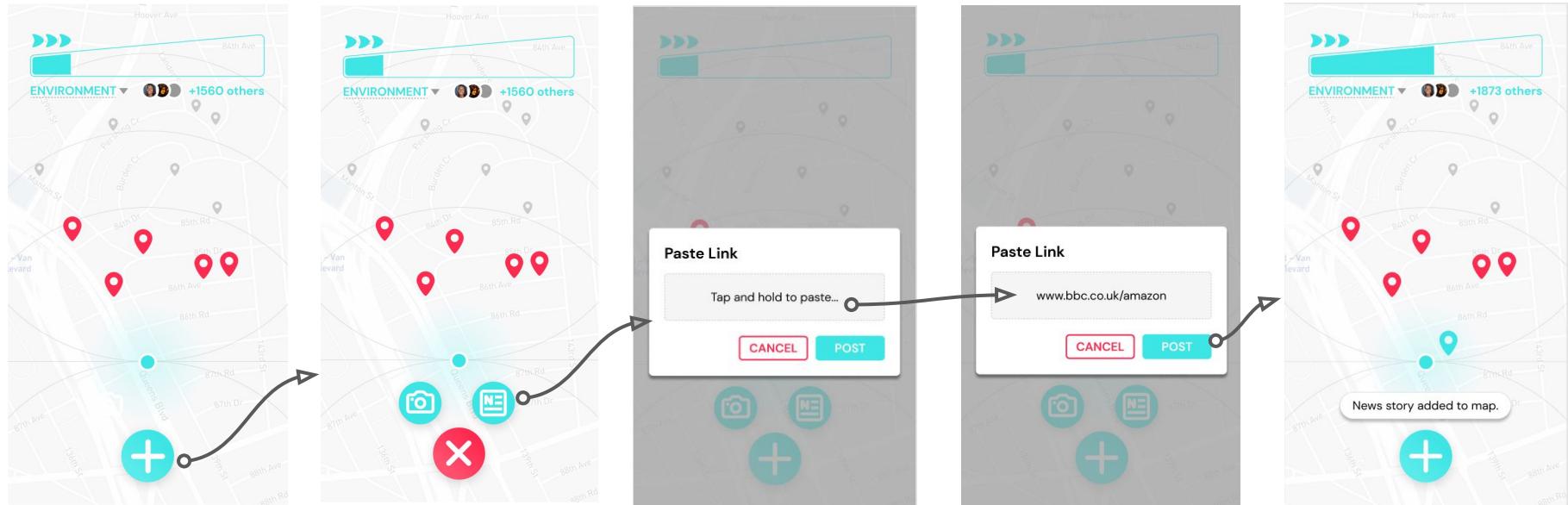
# Simple task: discover nearby stories



# Medium task: share your stories



# Medium task: share your stories



# Complex task: spark offline activity

The image displays a sequence of five screenshots illustrating a mobile application's user interface for encouraging offline activism. The first two screenshots show a map of a residential area with several red location pins indicating active users. A teal progress bar at the top of the screen shows the number '+1873 others' and a small bell icon. The third screenshot is a detailed view of the same map, with a teal wave icon appearing over one of the location pins. Below the map, text reads: 'Ride The Wave!', 'People in your area are rushing to take action on environmentalism.', and 'Swipe to explore how you can ride the wave!'. The fourth and fifth screenshots show three different offline activities: 'Climate Change Rally' (people holding protest signs), 'WWF Beach Clean-Up' (people picking up trash on a beach), and 'Join a green book club' (people reading books). Each activity card includes a 'NOT FEELING WAVY TODAY' button at the bottom.

ENVIRONMENT +1873 others

Ride The Wave!

People in your area are rushing to take action on environmentalism.

Swipe to explore how **you** can ride the wave!

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Ride The Wave!

People in your area are rushing to take action on environmentalism.

Swipe to explore how **you** can ride the wave!

Climate Change Rally

WWF Beach Clean-Up

Join a green book club

NOT FEELING WAVY TODAY

NOT FEELING WAVY TODAY

NOT FEELING WAVY TODAY

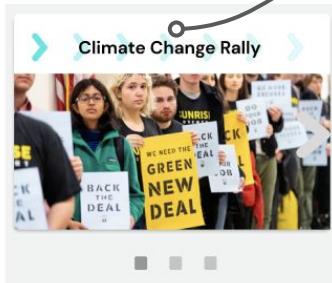
Waves are triggered when the bar is full. Users swipe through options.

# Complex task: spark offline activity cont.

## Ride The Wave!

People in your area are rushing to take action on environmentalism.

Swipe to explore how you can ride the wave!



Select an option, then...

## Climate Change Rally

**About this event:** Fight for the Green New Deal to reduce carbon emissions and support communities facing the worst effects of the climate crisis.

**Date & Time:** 12th October 2019, 12:00pm

**Location:** 459 Lagunita Drive, Stanford, CA



[SHOW ME SOMETHING ELSE](#)

## WWF Beach Clean-up

**About this event:** Join WWF for a clean-up of a local beach to maintain cleaner, safer oceans.

**Date & Time:** 12th October 2019, 12:00pm

**Location:** 459 Lagunita Drive, Stanford, CA



[SHOW ME SOMETHING ELSE](#)

## Ride The Wave!

People in your area are rushing to take action on environmentalism.

Swipe to explore how you can ride the wave!



## Ride The Wave!

People in your area are rushing to take action on environmentalism.

Swipe to explore how you can ride the wave!



## Join a Green Book Club

**About this event:** Join us at your local library to read and discuss books about the environment.

**Date & Time:** 12th October 2019, 12:00pm

**Location:** 459 Lagunita Drive, Stanford, CA



[SHOW ME SOMETHING ELSE](#)

# Prototype Overview

## a. Design/Prototyping Tools

- Used Figma (both UI design and interactive prototype flow) and Figma Crush for design inspiration
- Tools helped:
  - All contained in one collaborative, real-time, intuitive platform: independent design work informed by others
  - Didn't have to create UI from scratch
  - Easy to make transitions
- How did the tools not help? (what was hard)
  - Keeping track of screens and naming things
  - Hard to maintain state (have to hardcode some)

# Prototype Overview

b. Limitations/tradeoffs of the current prototype (what was left out of the prototype & why)

- Some actions aren't mocked: actions beyond the task flow were not included because they distracted from the core elements of the application
- No real information/ database: not a real application, so it is not connected to a back-end

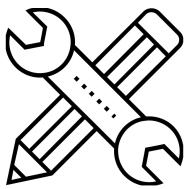
c. Any Wizard of Oz techniques required to make it work

- None

d. Hard-coded features and why required

- Because sharewaves is a social app and we do not have users, we do have hard-coded content. We created mock users, news stories, and videos to simulate a full user experience.

# Experimental Methodology



## Tools?

### Figma

collaborative design,  
interactive prototype  
flow

### Figma Crush

inspiration, re-use of  
relevant components



## Challenges?

### Tools helped...

- collaboration
- intuitive platform
- easy transitions

### Tools didn't...

- keeping track of / naming designs
- state management



## Limitations

### What's left out?

- some actions are not mocked: focus on core interactions and elements
- no real information/ data (no back-end)



## Hardcoding?

(since we're a social app with no users...), we created mock users, news stories, and videos to simulate a full user experience.

No wizards required!