

Mentor Check-In #1 & #2

Fri, Nov 12 and Dec 3 2021

Commit Document: `meeting-agenda` / `meeting-agenda-2` (by noon before the meeting)

Commit Document: `meeting-notes` / `meeting-notes-2` (by midnight after the meeting)

Each team will be assigned a teaching assistant as a mentor. You will have two 30 minute meetings, one after [Project Pitches](#), and one after the [MVP Presentations](#). We won't be able to fit all the teams during the lecture time, so your mentor will reach out to you for scheduling. All team members are expected to attend the mentoring meetings (unless there are extenuating circumstances that you have communicated with your mentor).

It is important that you come to the meeting prepared so that the meeting runs efficiently. Therefore, your team will be required to prepare an agenda before the meeting. The agenda should include a list of points you wish to discuss with your team mentor. The agenda should also include a progress report summarizing all progress up until the meeting. It should include:

- achieved & missed milestones from your project plan
- any difficulties that you encountered
- any changes made to your design or project plan

During the meeting, one team member should take brief meeting notes, which should include a summary of discussions, advice from your mentor, new decisions, and any changes made to your plan & milestones moving forward.

You might think that these requirements are a burden. They will, in fact, ensure that you get the most out of your mentor meeting and that problems are resolved before they become serious and risk derailing your project. Also, learning how to manage a project with a minimal amount of bureaucracy is a valuable skill.

- What do we do if there are too many pins on the map home page? How do we deal with it clustering up the entire screen? In the case that too many people are posting, if the post was a blockage, then we should still keep it on the map but if it's safe maybe we only keep it for around 1 or 2 days and archive it by setting the active field of the blockage post to be false so it doesn't show up on the map and clutter it up.
- We have a problem where view history takes 1 or 2 seconds to load if there were lots of previous updates so our mentor's solution was to have a 'loading ...' display for when the view history page is still loading and not loaded yet before showing 'no updates to show' to avoid confusion for the user.
- If we have enough time, we can make it mobile friendly as well by implementing resize but can also just keep it desktop if not enough time is also ok since this class purpose is to teach web app development not mobile app.
- It's ok to have a few seconds delay for view history: just show a 'loading...' when it's still loading before showing no previous updates yet since it's not an optimization classes
- All we're missing now are the badges, karma, emoji, and then the push notifications or notification bar depending on what we have time for.

- For knowing when to make update statuses official, we can try to do something like if a police comes up next to a blockage, they can report it but that might be too complicated so we don't need it. We can also do if enough people report a blockage, it will show up like in Ways
 - Maybe if 2 or 3 people all say blocked to a report, we can change the frontend to make the update status officially displayed or have the users make a request to change the status so one user doesn't have the ability to go through every pin and change them all to blocked just to troll and mess up the system.
- Maybe have a voting system for the update statuses to become official to prevent one user to spam every pin as blocked with nonsense and ruin the entire database.
- Push notifications:
 - Only way is to have the backend keep making requests to check for new subscriptions
 - We can also have a python api that calls the routes that does the checking of notifications and run the python script to run in background always and have it call the api.
 - We can do this by setting up things like Python Anywhere that costs 5 dollars a month to have the python script running on this website for 5 dollars a month or just keep it running on our own laptop by having it always on instead of running it on the paid cloud services
- Subscription choices: We can also just have the notification bar instead of push notifications to make backend requests when the user loads the website instead of push notifications if not enough time: good enough.
- Adding a future blockage pin: use a 4th color on the map and give it a status like FUTURE as fourth status for example.
 - When this option is clicked, the report blockage will have more input options like start and end date, where the end date is optional (don't know when it will be yet)
 - give people the option to place a blockage without start and end date for the other types of blockages (non future ones). We can also have posts without an end date to give the user the choice
 - Can place blockage without end date: call it infinity since some blockages don't know how long they'll last for.
- We decided not to integrate google calendar since it's too complicated and our current system is already good enough since you can choose an interval of time everyday to be repeated weekly for the alerts, which is already quite complex in terms of the backend and we won't have enough time to integrate another google api that's not maps.
- Karma based system: right now any user can post a blockage which seems the most natural. We should think a bit about it but don't worry too much about it: get the product and notifications working first: don't worry too much about a perfect system: no one's gonna take off points if the karma doesn't work perfectly since it is quite complex with a lot of edge cases.