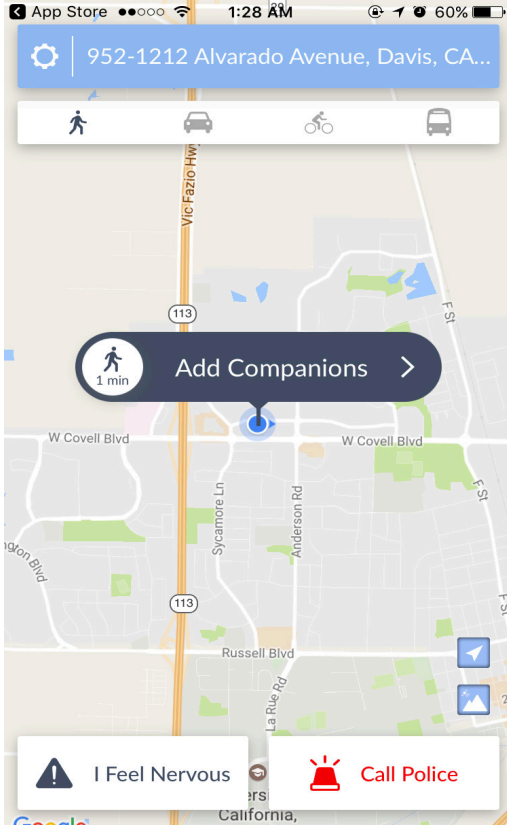
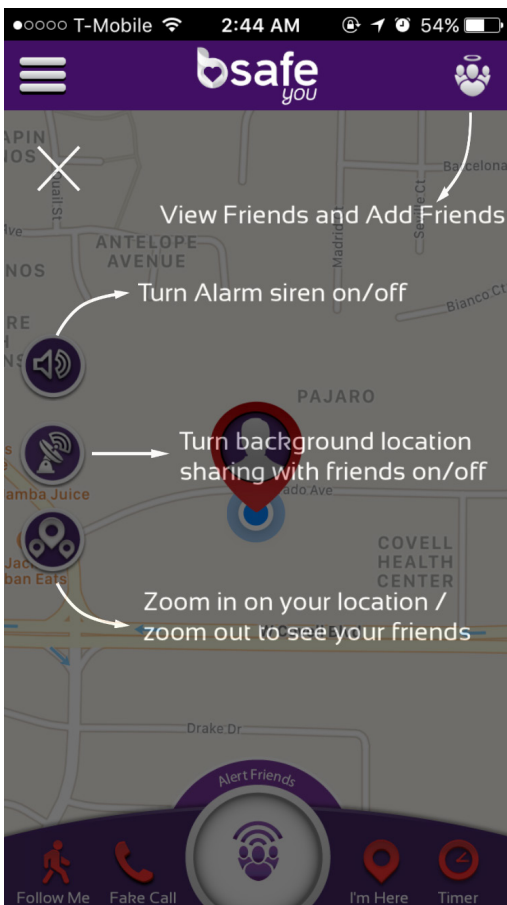


# Comparative Research



The “Companion” app is a safety app for people traveling alone. The premise is that it is an app that allows your friends and loved ones to know where you are at anytime. Before you leave for your journey, you first establish where you want to go and select the contacts that you want to be notified if anything happens. Once you are on your journey and on the app, you are able to call the police, tell your chosen contacts safe, and allows your contacts to check where you are. It is intended for people who travel alone in either unsafe or unknown areas. Their targeted audience are young adults. Although the app is useful, there are some improvements. For instance, when you select your companions, you are required to select at least three companions. It is an inconvenience, especially if you wanted companions that are close by and only have 1 or 2 friends. Another critique is that they use a third party, which makes it slower to load. Also, to confirm and check my location, you are required to have internet and text messages. When using the app, I also noticed that my location wasn't very accurate. Overall, the experience was very intuitive and the short tutorial when you first download the app is helpful. However, there are some technical problems that makes this app harder and inconvenient to use.



“bSafe” is another companion app. Although this app made their premium features free, there are still problems I faced when downloading and using the app. For instance, when you are on the app, it changes the appearance of the keyboard and normal Apple UI, the text is bigger and bolded. Also, when I created an account and entered the app, they had a quick tutorial page, which was helpful. However, the tutorial page had too much information, which made it less intuitive. Also, once you enter the app, you are required to enter 6 contacts, which is not effective if you have very few friends or loved ones. I felt that the signup process required too much. What I do like about the app is that it allows you to record audio and video automatically once you press the alert button.