

A&M Engineering Status (Team 24)

Our website will serve as a hub for Aggie engineering students to get live updates pertaining to our campus, the engineering buildings, and relevant events. We are focusing on the ZEEC, ETB, and the surrounding area. The scope of our project includes allowing students to check how busy nearby restaurants on University are, get quick access to TAMU IT alerts from Twitter, check the traffic around the engineering buildings, view a calendar of events providing by A&M's College of Engineering, and more. In addition there will be a page that provides information about the buildings around the Zachry complex, and will include all of the engineering buildings. There will be a map included and whenever a user rolls over a building the information for that building will come up. The information provided will include hours, a picture, and a construction status for the building. Using this website, students will be able to use this to know when a building is available for studying and organization meetings. It will also provide hours for off-campus locations that are near the engineering complex where students can study such as St. Mary's Catholic Church and A&M United Methodist. A stretch goal will be to include additional information about all of these buildings and also including information about the nearby living opportunities for people interested in living around the engineering complex.

Our fallback goals include showing information about the lab hours. One of our stretch goals include allowing users to enter their engineering professors' and TA's names to view their offices. Another stretch goal is the ability to view the amount of available parking on the lots around the ETB. There may not be a specific API to access this information; A&M uses ParkMobile for visitor parking in Lot 51. We might be able to build a way to view the number of empty spots from their web service.

Our main scope will include Google Maps, Google Calendar, and Twitter. Google Maps will be used for both the live traffic and the restaurant status pages, Google Calendar will be used for the College of Engineering events, and Twitter will be used for the TAMU IT alert feed. If we achieve our stretch goal of showing live parking status, we will also use ParkMobile.

Our website would primarily be used by either students or faculty that spend a significant amount of time around ZEEC, ETB, WEB, or the other nearby engineering buildings. Imagine if a student has 20 minutes between classes and wants to grab lunch, but is afraid of walking to Chipotle only to find a line of 50 people and a 25 minute wait. Using our website, he can quickly check the status of every nearby restaurant using information from Google Maps. Consider a faculty member teaching in the ETB who is having difficulties with Wi-Fi or eCampus. Using our website, they can get the latest Tweets from the TAMU IT Alert account to see if there are known problems. The benefit of our website is that users will not have to jump between Twitter, Google Maps,

and the A&M department websites, and can instead visit just one location to get every relevant bit of info they might need throughout the day.

Our team members either have limited front-end web experience, or no experience at all. We anticipate difficulty learning to work the APIs of the various web services we plan to incorporate, and will have to learn HTML and JavaScript syntax. Brandon is planning to work on the restaurant statuses and the live traffic. Hunter will work on the site Home Page as well as the Events page for incorporating information about Zachry and the Google Calendar. Andrew will incorporate the building locations and hours as part of the Buildings & Hours page, and add all pertaining information to this page.