Dear Editor:

I would like to submit the manuscript entitled “*Measuring the Impacts of Disruptions on Public Transit Accessibility and Reliability*” by Luyu Liu, Adam Porr, and Harvey J. Miller for consideration as a research article for publication in the *Journal of Transport Geography*. We also would like to attend the special issue “*Resilience of human mobility in response to unexpected events*” because the subject matter of the special issue resonates deeply with the theme of the paper and our research interests and expertise. In this paper, we measure the impacts of the Ohio State football games and the COVID-19 pandemic on public transit system’s accessibility and reliability; we conduct the two case studies of short- and long-term disruptions on the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) bus system in Columbus, Ohio. We calculate *realizable real-time accessibility*, a conservative real-time accessibility measure that can be achieved by users subject to delays, and *scheduled accessibility*, accessibility based on schedule. We also calculate *accessibility unreliability*, the deviation between realizable accessibility and scheduled accessibility, to measure the reliability of delivered accessibility. We find there are two peaks of high unreliability before and after each football games, with the stadium as the geographic center of the disruption. The after-game peaks are shorter and more intense than the before-game. We also find COVID-19 had persistent negative impacts on accessibility and reliability: Realizable accessibility universally declined during the pandemic, but only part of cities experienced unreliability increase, primarily in urban perimeters and suburbs. Improved traffic conditions during the pandemic may help to reduce unreliability, but the later service cuts increased unreliability. The two case studies prove the effectiveness of the method to detect system disturbances and provide important guidance for public transit system operation and planning.

We submitted the paper to the journal *Transportation* in Oct 2022, but the editor cannot find enough reviewers for our peer review, and the process has taken an unusually long time. Therefore, we decided to withdraw the paper and resubmit. However, we never heard from the journal as usual, and we cannot withdraw the paper on our side due to the platform’s limitation. Please find our email to the journal’s editorial office below. We confirm that we will not be publishing the paper in *Transportation*, regardless of any decision or feedback from the journal.

As the corresponding author, I confirm that the manuscript has been read and approved for submission by all the named authors. We hope you find our manuscript suitable for publication and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Sincerely,

Luyu Liu

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Email: [liuluyu0378@gmail.com](mailto:liuluyu0378@gmail.com)

Our email to the editorial office of *Transportation*.

From: Liu, Luyu

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 3:24 AM

To: axhausen@ivt.baug.ethz.ch; Narmadha.Purusothaman@Springernature.com

Cc: Miller, Harvey

Subject: Transportation Submission Withdraw Request - Liu, Miller

Dear Transportation Editorial Office,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to formally request the withdrawal of my manuscript titled "Measuring the Impacts of Disruptions on Public Transit Accessibility and Reliability" (78a770ca-d2c4-4e35-90bc-3b453910eb00) from consideration for publication in Transportation. Unfortunately, I am unable to withdraw the submission on the platform independently and require the intervention of the editorial office to complete the withdrawal process.

I initially submitted my manuscript in Oct 2022 and eagerly awaited the outcome of the review. However, the peer review process has taken an unusually long time, far beyond what is typically expected for manuscripts in your esteemed journal. Please consider this email as an official request to withdraw my manuscript from the peer review process. I kindly request that you acknowledge this withdrawal and confirm that the manuscript will no longer be considered for publication.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt acknowledgement of the withdrawal.

Thanks,

Luyu