

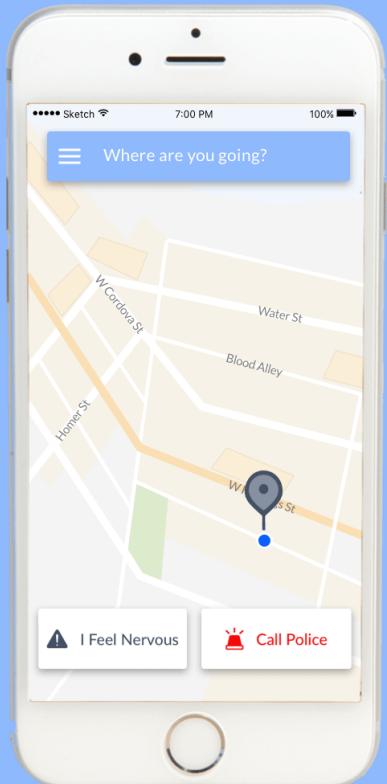


COMPANION APP

FEATURE DESIGN: PHASE 3

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IAT 334 - D101
Summer 2017

Instructor: Paul Brokenshire
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COMPANION.

A personal security solution for both walking alone at night and staying safe while home alone. Giving you the ability to filter your maps by what matters most to you when it comes to safety, as well as allowing companions to be requested while you are alone at home. Ensuring your safety no matter where you are.

OUR GOALS + REASONING

Our main goal with these new additional features is not only to increase safety, but also to create an ecosystem where people can easily get help whenever and wherever they feel unsafe.

What kind of things makes someone feel safe while walking on a street at night?

What happens when they get home?

What if they live in a troubled neighborhood, where it is unsafe for one to stay at home alone?

What are ways to stay safe while home alone?

Based on our research to find the answers to these questions, we came up with a map filter feature, which allows Companion users to select elements that makes them feel safe and actually be safer walking on the street at night, as well as the check-in system for a home feature.



PERSONA



MONICA WRIGHT

Age: 17

Gender: Female

Occupation: Student

SKILLS

Knowledgeable with Apple products, as she has a MacBook Pro and iPhone 7.

GOALS

She wants to stay safe when she is out at night with friends and when she is home alone. She also wants her mum not to worry too much about her safety.

LIFE GOALS

She wants streets to be safer for women of all ages, and to feel comfortable walking alone without someone else for protection. She also wants safety when she's home alone, and her parents are not there to keep her secure.

EXPERIENCE GOALS

She wants the app to tell her what the safest route is while walking alone to where she is going. She wants to be able to change the route that the app suggests if she particularly wants to avoid a certain area. She wishes to pair up with a companion to check in with her while she is home alone, and know that someone is looking out for her even if they are not physically present.

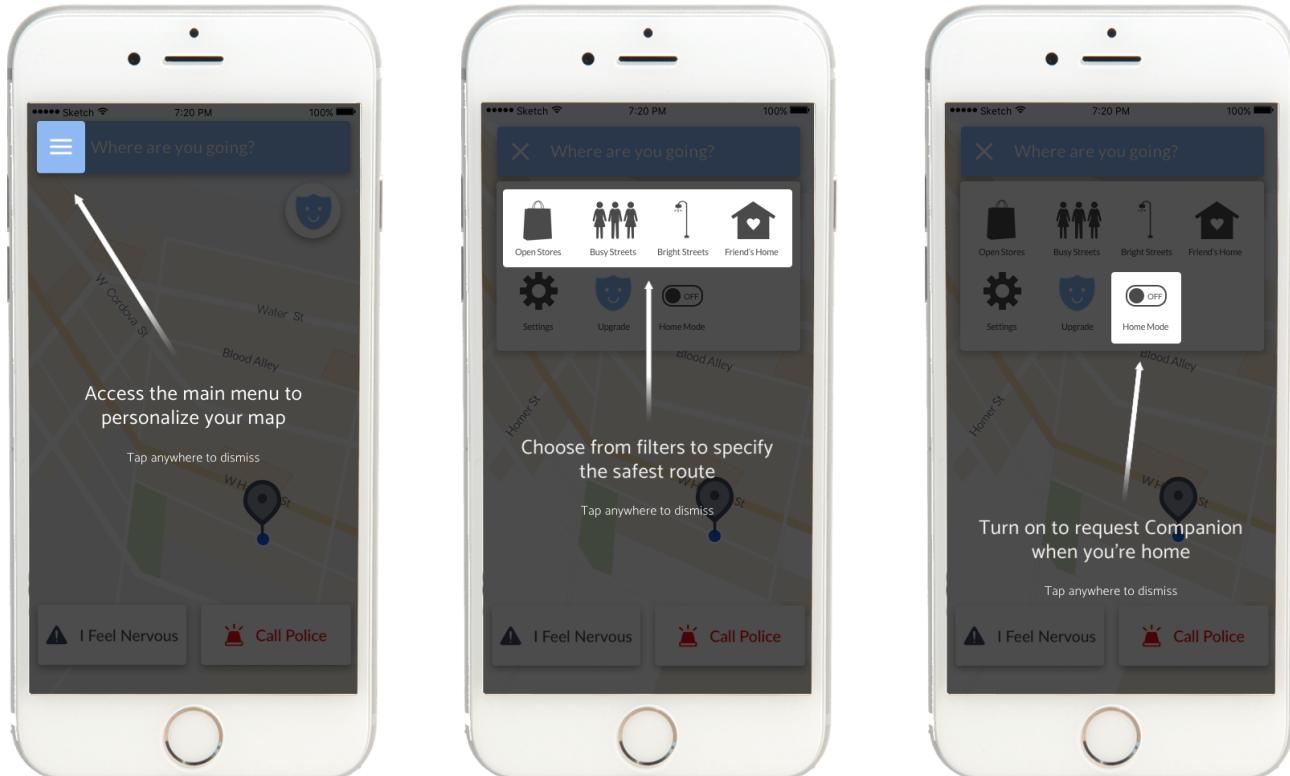
MOTIVATION

There has been some cases of sexual assaults and break-ins in the neighbourhood. Monica's mum does not feel comfortable leaving her daughter alone by herself at home or letting her go out at night. Her mum reminds her not to walk on dark and empty streets when she is out at night.



FEATURE ONBOARDING

Educating our users on our new features with the same user interface that is currently in use in the app.



INDICATE LOCATION OF
PERSONALIZATION OPTIONS

SHOW MAP FILTERS

TOGGLE HOME MODE

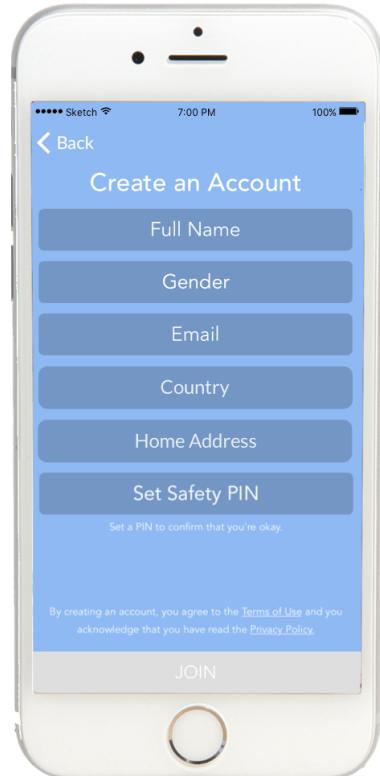


Workflow

User will request a companion while at home alone, then require further security when they decide to go out for a little while.

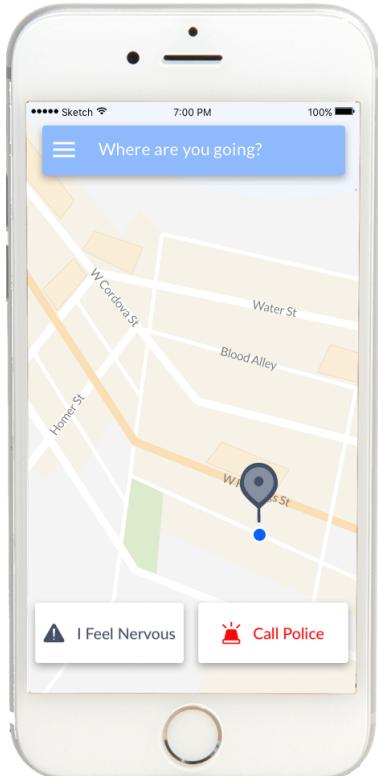


HOME MODE



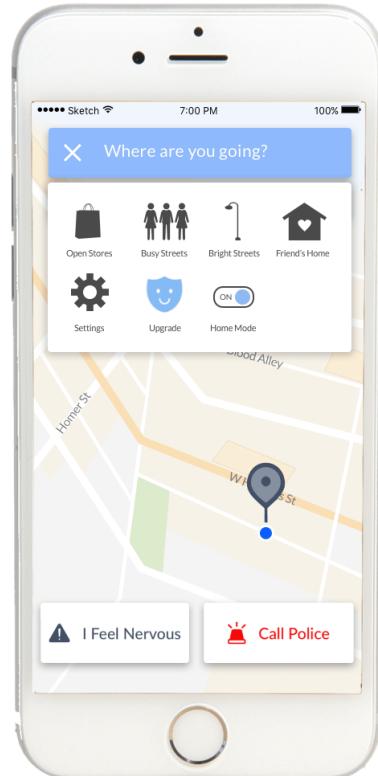
CREATE AN ACCOUNT

This is only one of the account creation screens. Here, users are asked to input their home address and country, so that they can use Home Mode.



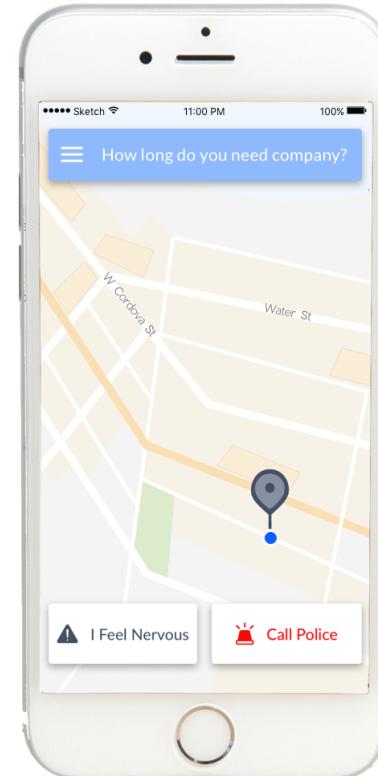
MAP VIEW

Open main menu to turn on Home Mode.



TURN ON HOME MODE

Open main menu to turn on Home Mode.

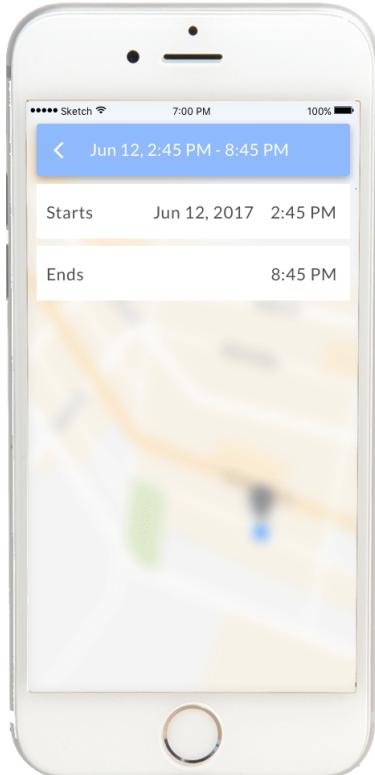


BUTTON STRING CHANGE

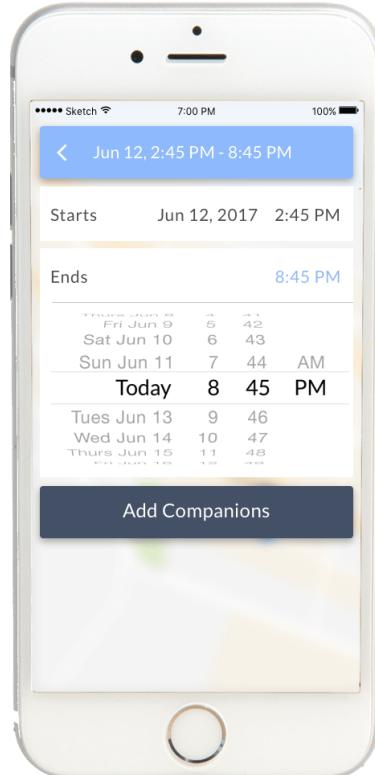
String in main button changes, asking the user to specify how long they need a companion for while at home.



H O M E M O D E (C O N T .)

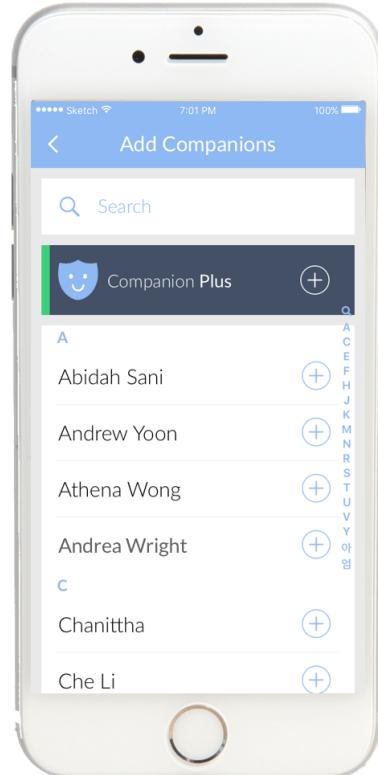


SPECIFY TIME



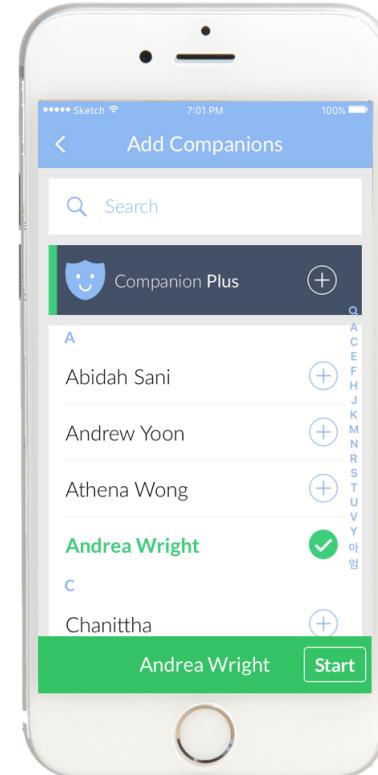
OS INTERACTION

Either on an iPhone or Android, the time selection will be the same as the phone's operating system.



ADD COMPANION

Select as many companions as wanted.

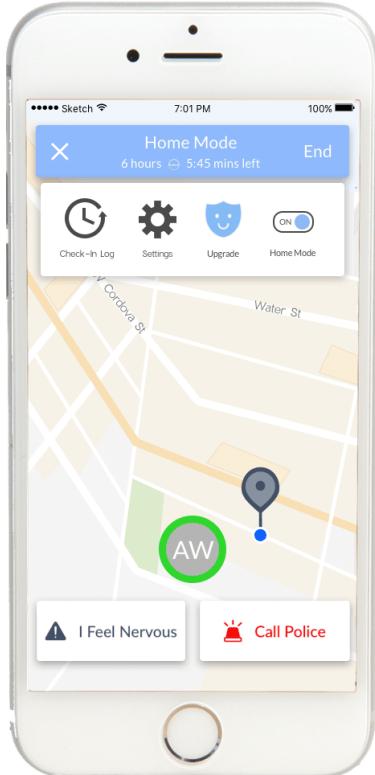


COMPANION SELECTED

Once desired companions are selected, clicking 'Start' will send the requests.

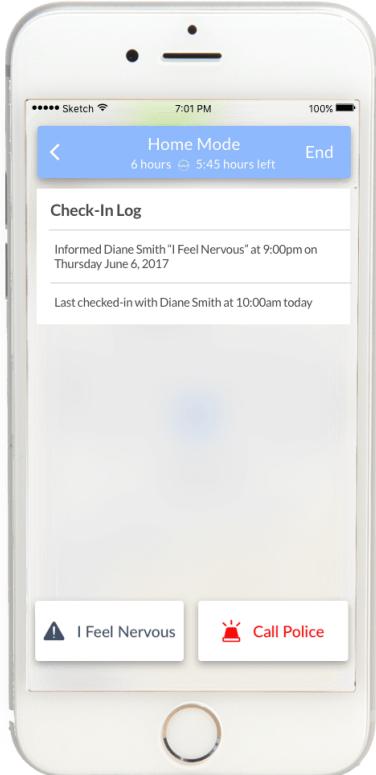


H O M E M O D E (C O N T .)



SELECT CHECK-IN LOG

Menu changes for Home Mode. Users can browse through previous check-in activity via the Check-in Log.



VIEW CHECK-IN LOG

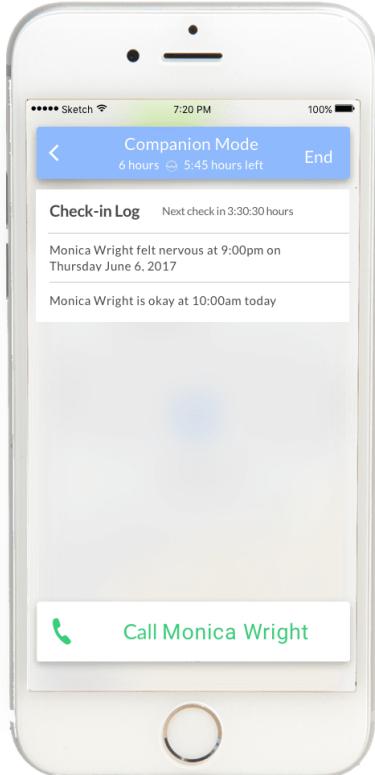


SAFETY CHECK (USER VIEW)

User responds to their companion's safety check by tapping 'YES', if safe.

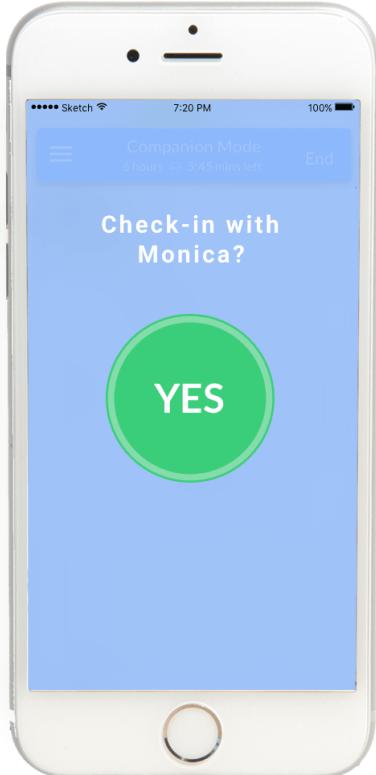


H O M E M O D E (C O N T .)



**CHECK-IN LOG
(COMPANION VIEW)**

Companion can also browse through previous interactions with their current connected user.



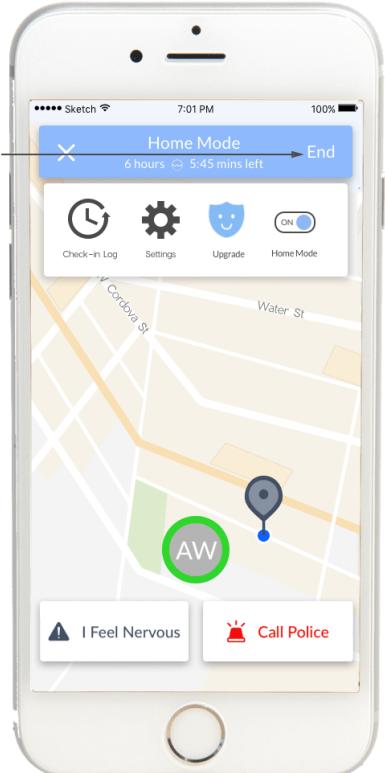
**SAFETY CHECK
(COMPANION VIEW)**

Companions get prompted to check-in with their connected users periodically.



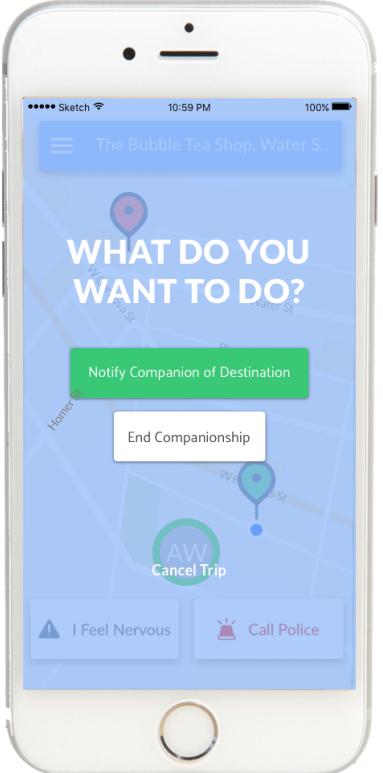
MAP FILTERS

Tapping 'End' will end Home Mode, in addition to the toggle.



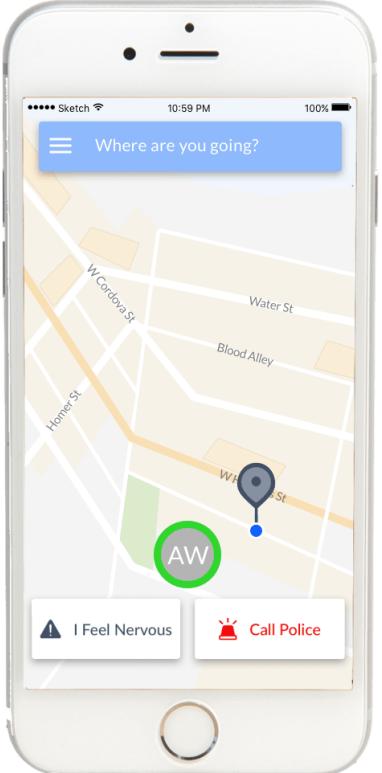
TURN OFF HOME MODE

Users can toggle Home Mode off within the main menu. Travel Mode is then activated. Menu closes upon being toggled off or on.



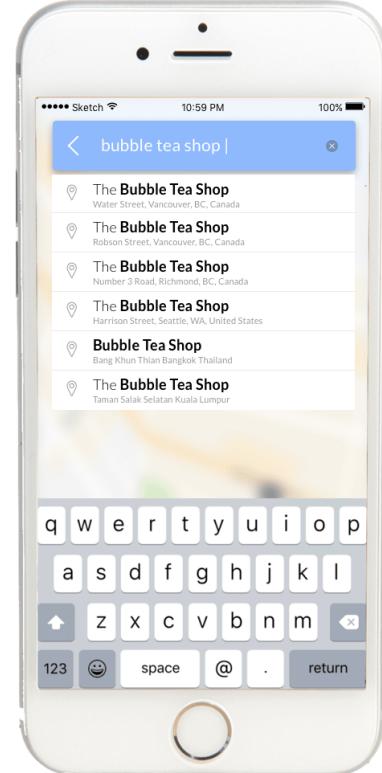
PROMPT APPEARS

User needs to decide if they want their companion to stop tracking them since they are no longer going to be home, or can let their companion know that they are going out, but would still like their help.



STRING CHANGE

String in main button changes, asking the user to specify a destination.

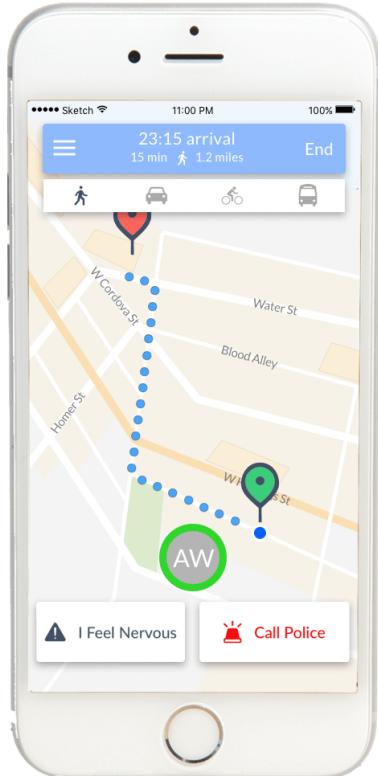


SPECIFY DESTINATION

All locations matching the text entered will appear below the text input field. Tapping on any of them will map the fastest route.

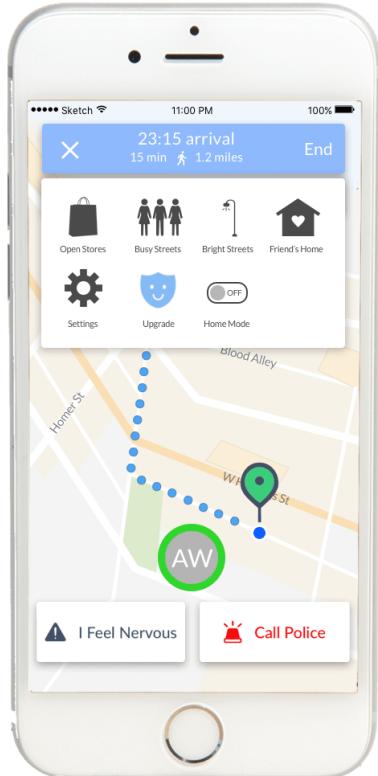


M A P F I L T E R S (C O N T .)



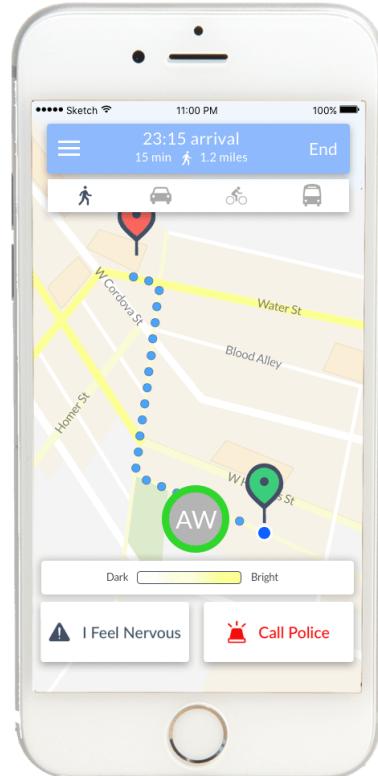
VIEW ROUTE

A walking route is the default method of getting from Point A to Point B, but users can specify any method of transport.



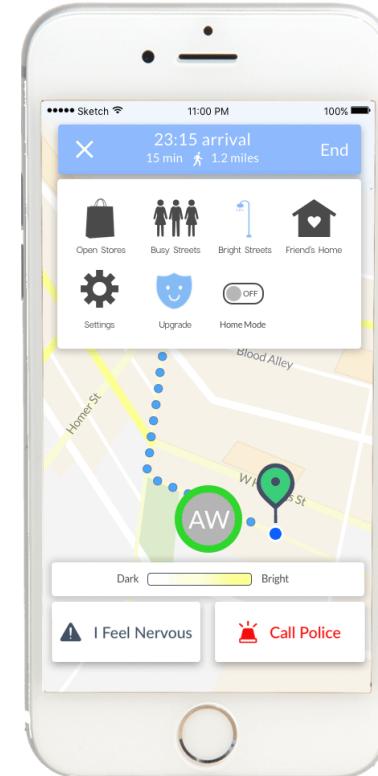
SELECT BRIGHT STREETS

Opening the main navigation menu will reveal various filters that a user can have appear on their map, along with viewing their settings, upgrading, and switching to Home Mode.



VIEW BRIGHT STREETS

User can visualize the streets based on brightness. An indicator is provided to clarify what the range of colors mean.



SELECT OPEN STORES

Similar to bright streets, user can opt to view open stores, busy streets, and friend's homes nearby. All active filters will be blue, along with the upgrade button.



M A P F I L T E R S (C O N T .)



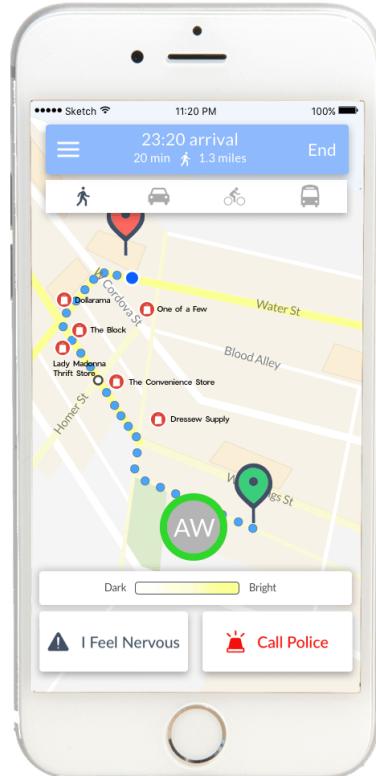
VIEW OPEN STORES

User can visualize all filters at once. In this case, user is viewing bright streets and open stores.



CHANGE ROUTE

Click and drag from anywhere along the shown route to specify preferred route based on the filters shown.

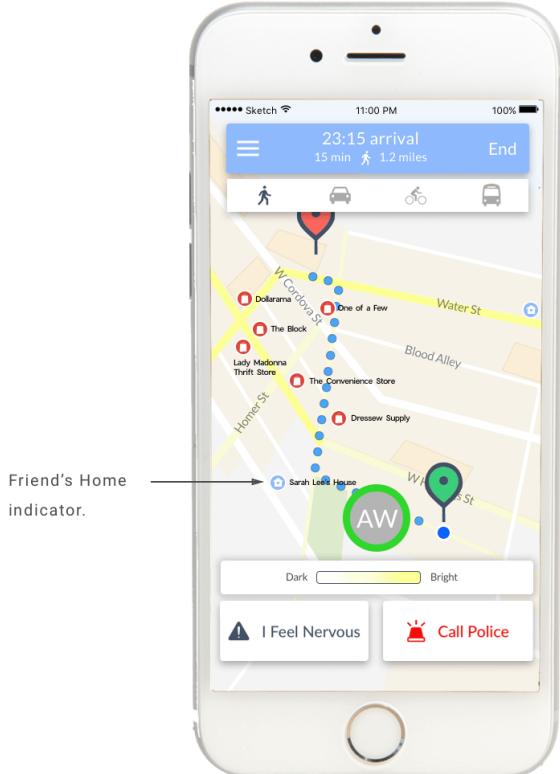


ARRIVAL

Once user has reached their destination, they can tap on 'End' to let their companion know they are safe.



OTHER POTENTIAL SCREENS



Friend's Home indicator.

VIEW HOMES OF FRIENDS

In this case, user is viewing bright streets, open stores, and nearby friends' homes.



Population indicator. The more indicators there are, the more people there are on that street.

VIEW BUSY STREETS

In this case, user is viewing bright streets, open stores, and busy streets.

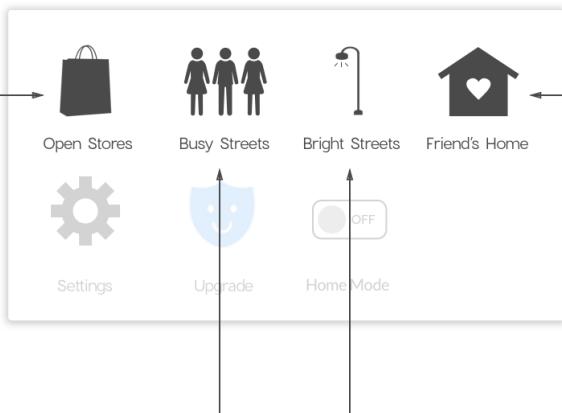


COLLECTING DATA

Our map filter feature requires gathering data from different resources in order to present them to our users in a feasible manner.

OPEN STORES

Utilizing the existing Google Maps feature to provide information on whether or not stores are open. This information is provided to Google by business owners.



FRIEND'S HOME

If users have their contacts' home addresses saved in their phones, they will show when this filter is turned on. Users will have already authorized Companion to access their contacts in order to use the app.

BUSY STREETS

Powered by Google Maps via satellite, we can see how many people are on particular streets if their location settings are turned on.

BRIGHT STREETS

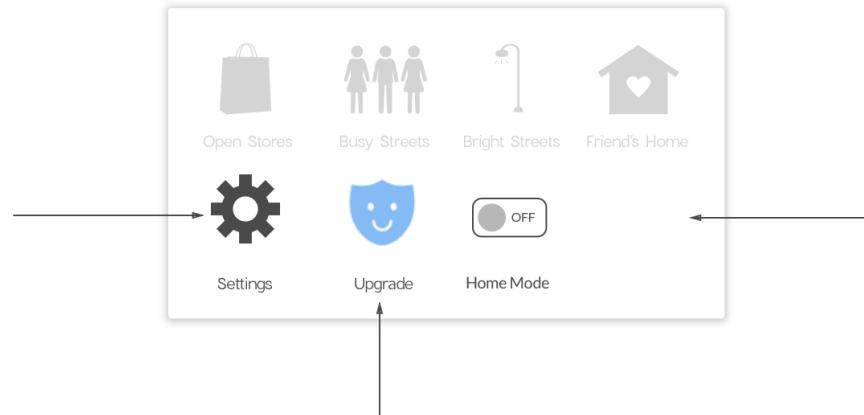
The amount of street lights present on each street will determine the brightness ranking we give each street. We can collect street light numbers from the local city government.



CONSIDERATIONS

SETTINGS

Settings will contain all the same options as before, but also allow users to change their home address.



HOME MODE

When a user is in Travel Mode, the app will give an error message if the user is not actually at home but is trying to turn Home Mode on.

UPGRADE

We removed the upgrade button from the main screen, and placed it within the main menu. This will be a popular place to navigate to for most users, making the upgrade hard to miss. This will eliminate confusion for users, while also keeping stakeholders happy with a purchasing opportunity.



REFERENCES

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<https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/r1cTsf3we7S4vrSwKgFNEGHi3LmxnessILUKeVgiwVsN93X290uvI6tSR48cXAISVqQ=w300>

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<https://www.companionapp.io/>

