**PROJECT PRESENTATION**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT ASSISTANT**

**What our idea is about**

Travelling in public transport system, have you ever been in a situation where you missed an appointment because you were too focused on doing your work on the train and missed the stop you needed to get off? Or you went to a new place on the bus or tram and were unsure when to press the Stop button? Too early or too late and it meant you had to walk a good 10 or 15 minutes towards or back to the stop where you wanted to get off.

Even when you constantly stared at your phone, trying it keep track of your current location (and no one wants to do that in the whole trip!) you could still miss the stop by just a few seconds!

Our app, Public Transport Assistant, is about solving that problem!

**Why we decided to do it**

In this project we are not aiming for something completely new or fancy, but for a goal that is practical and achievable. We want to help public transport commuters, including ourselves, to reach their destinations, especially the new ones, on time, without worrying too much about the journey.

We already have enough to worry about what we will do after we get to the journey, like an exam, we should not have to worry about the journey itself. This app will hopefully bring the peace of mind to the users, so that they can fully concentrate on what to do next, knowing that our app will help them get to the destination on time.

**What nice or competitive our app has**

Now we are aware that there are many travel apps supporting pubic transport already, for example the PTV app for Melbourne, or Google Maps. However, most of them either lack the feature to keep track of the journey and remind users when to get off, or only have a basic feature with limited functionality which is not very reliable. I’ve tried to use the Reminder option of Google Maps and it almost always failed to remind me when to get off. Luckily I did not fully rely on it, or I would miss a lot of lectures and practicals for this course (j/k)

Our app will completely change that. It will have a robust mechanism to analyse and keep track of the user journey, to promptly reminder them right when they need to take action to ensure they will get off on time. We’ll make it flexible by providing various modes of reminders to users:

* Remind when passing the second last stop before the next transit stop or to the destination
* Remind when there is X metres to the next transit stop or to the destination
* Remind when there is X minutes to the next transit stop or to the destination. This option requires the app to constantly monitor not just the user location but also the speed of the user in real time, to calculate and estimate the time to reach the next stop.

We believe that doing something **right** is more important than doing something **new**. We hope and believe that our app can make a difference in making life of the commuters easier.

**How far we have got so far**

So far we have completed:

* Functional and design requirements for the app, with scopes for the first release, and future improvement.
* Set up development environment, both hardware and software
* For design, we have created basic wireframe for the app
* For development, we have analysed technical requirements to fulfil the app functional requirements and worked out the detailed plan to implement them
* We have set up the test framework, for both usability and technical, for the app

**Next steps**

* Designing the app UI in detail
* Implementing the technical functionality
* Testing the usability and technical requirements, ensuring the app meets the requirements, in scope, and usable
* Package the app and deploy it to the app stores