

Charlotte Transportation Problem Statement

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Problem Statement:

Students at the University of South Carolina from the Charlotte metropolitan area need a reliable and accessible way to travel to and from the USC Campus, because many students do not have access to a car.

Who is experiencing the problem?

This problem affects any student that does not have access to a car or has a close relationship with someone who does. However, for the purpose of this project there is a narrowed focus onto that of Charlotte residents and residents of the surrounding suburbs.

What is the problem?

The problem is that there is no major infrastructure for travel between Columbia and Charlotte that is readily accessible for students. The current option besides car is by plane, however that is not cost effective for students as tickets can cost as much as 200\$ for the 30 minute journey.

Where does the problem present itself?

The problem presents itself at every university holiday, available weekend, or any other time a student might need to travel home. The distance to Charlotte can cause a round trip to be a 4-5 hour time commitment and many families especially during holiday seasons do not have that amount of time to travel to pick up their student.

Why does it matter?

For students, the ability to travel home easily, effectively, and reliably not only can create a feeling of comfort for the student, but also can help with adjustment periods. Additionally, many families that are already going into debt to send their student to college might not have the ability to pick up students, therefore this can leave students on campus longer than expected.