Promoting Bus Travel to Young Car Owners

Warwick Sustainability Challenge 2022

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is satisfying the current needs of the world without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Adapted from Black, 1996



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CURRENT SITUATION

- 1. UN analysis shows that transport is responsible for 25% of CO2 emissions worldwide.
- 2. West Midlands 2016 review shows 1/3 of emissions in Coventry are from personal car use
- **3.** Government survey shows Coventry is 5th best connected city in UK
- 4. There is significant congestion in Coventry at peak times
- 5. West Midlands 2016 review predicts increasing car ownership figures

TARGET CUSTOMERS

Who they are:

Young car owners (<30 years) travelling short distances (<15 mins) at peak times.

Why they were chosen:

- Scientific American shows that young people are statistically more open to change and so more likely to follow a new initiative.

- Increases in bus travel from this age group would increase revenue as they are fee paying (compared to those with free bus travel) so providing financial sustainability and the possibility of future sustainable development

What they want:

- Reliability
- Real time information

United Nations, 2021. *Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development.* Available at <u>https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/Transportation%20Report%202021 FullReport Digital.pdf</u>

Metro Alliance, 2016. 2016 West Midlands Travel Trends. Available at https://www.metroalliance.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/travel-trends-web.pdf Scientific American, 2008. Set in Our Ways: Why Change Is So Hard. Available at https://www.metroalliance.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/travel-trends-web.pdf



Value proposition

Gain Creators

-Functional signal control -Reliable Data Collection Data towards young car owners is analyzed and centralized in database	Data poli Red time Incr Dec Unb Car e Cong nany erce ack c

Pain Relievers

Gains

- ta support for preferential licy development duced congestion at peak/
- nes
- crease in bus use leading to crease in revenue crease in CO2 emissions

bearable petrol prices remission pollution gestion caused by too y private cars eived poor reliability of real time information

- Al sensors fitted to buses
- Sensors provide live information to customers
- Data is used to plan efficient route paths and hubs at key locations

Actions

Pains



What will IoT bring?

Accurate real-time information

- provide passengers with an access to real-time data
 - location, capacity, time to arrive, etc.

Data-driven decision making

- data collected by IoT devices can provide insights that may help to improve the bus service
 - e.g., a visualisation of the number of passengers at each bus stop

Retail Sensing, 2020. Automatic passenger counting - public transport. Retail Sensing. Available at https://www.retailsensing.com/automated-passengercounting.html.





Bus 5

1	MESTNI LOG		10	min			
5	STEPANJSKO N	IA	10	min			
8	BRNČIČEVA		15	min	27	min	
22	FUŽINE		11	min			
25	ZADOBROVA		7	min			

A.I. data analysis: An overview

01

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS: "What are the problems?"

- Rider data is already tracked via contactless payments and bus pass use
- Data from mobile providers can be analysed to gain insight into population movements (eg. O2 Smart Steps)
- For example, areas of chronic congestion or low ridership

02

DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSIS: "Why are they happening?"

- Identifies the most crucial and relevant information
- Able to determine and assign causes to the problems

04

PRESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS: "What should be done?"



Route generation

Factors in multiple programmed objectives

Plans the initial layouts with the given parameters

Generates different route options



Transit route analysis

Evaluates the options

Computes different performance measures

Scores them based on ability to meet the stated goals



03

PREDICTIVE ANALYSIS: "What will happen?"

• Algorithms extrapolate patterns from the data to predict future outcomes



Route improvement

Identifies and checks

Produces a final list of recommended actions that will improve the system

An integrated network

This could possibly be enhanced with the introduction of

- Platform-level boarding, to reduce wait times at stops
- bus priority lanes with dedicated right-of-way to reduce transit times and
- more transport hubs to enhance interconnectivity
- to form something closer to a BRT system

Dovetails with the upcoming VLR tram project, as well as the West Midlands Cycle Hire scheme. Stations could serve as interchanges, with the BRT feeding and collecting passengers to them. This would make it so any two points in Coventry will never be too far away by public transport.



Al can be used to reduce journey times through junctions by an average of 23%. Sensor trial at busy London Millbank site with 98% accuracy (Mehmet, 2020)





ABOUT OUR MARKETING GOALS

01. Enhance Customer Awareness

Conduct Omni-channel marketing campaigns to inform car owners and existing customers that the main bus routes have been optimised.

02. Improve Usage of Public Transport

Utilise a rewards scheme to stimulate car owners to public transport and improve the usage frequency of existing customers.

Omni-Channel Marketing



01. Online Channels

Email Marketing Social Media Marketing

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02. Offline Channels

Out-of-home Advertising

Institutional Cooperation















Reward Scheme



01. Take Bus

Register an account on coventry.gov.uk Add a bank card buy bus ticket online or swipe card

02. Earn Badges

Each time the passenger actives a bus ticket, a badge will be added to his/her account.



03. Redeem Vouchers

Ten badges can redeem a 10% off voucher for a monthly plan. * Vouchers are valid for all bus companies in Coventry.

Offline-Channel Marketing



Online-Channel Marketing





01. Social Media Accounts

- @coventrycitycouncil: low traffic
- @universityofwarwick+@wmgwarwick: high traffic + high interactivity

02. Interaction

People who post bus advertising photos and @ coverntrycitycoucil will offer a opportunity to get badges of the reward scheme.

03. Influencer Posts

Teach residents how to get rewarded by taking bus. @coventrybuses: photographer





Aim: Promoting bus travel to young car owners travelling short distances

Recommendations:

- **1. Install IoT sensors on all Coventry buses.**
- 2. Use data from sensors to
 - a) Perform data driven decision making. For example, optimising routes, analysing busy areas
 - b) Provide real time information to customers
 - c) Guide an integrated public transport network maximising links to VLRT, bike hire stations, etc.
- 3. Conduct Omni-channel marketing campaigns to reach a wider range of target customers.

