Public Transit Apps

Many public transit systems have a phone application (app) available to download on a smart phone that can be used to connect in real time with the bus system. Public transit app technology is helpful for riders of all ages and abilities.

Public transit apps provide information on:

Bus stops	Bus lines and routes	Bus schedules
Maps and wayfinding	Delays or potential travel impacts	Real-time location of the bus

Benefits of public transit apps:

Convenience	Reduced wait times	Reduced travel time
Easier wayfinding	Peace of mind	Increased independence

Public Transit App Features

Public transit apps tie into existing map systems, making it easy to see where you are - and quickly find where you are going. You can often view your current location, bus stops along a route, and the real-time location of the bus traveling along the route. You can also view problems along a route, like a traffic jam.

Example: Grayson

Grayson rides the city bus home from his part-time job. Using the app, he can see that today the bus is running 5 minutes late. He doesn't have to worry he has missed the bus.

Other Features

In some apps, family members and support people can pull up the app to check on the location of the rider.

A rider can independently (or with assistance from a support person) set "favorite" bus stops for easy tracking. You can even set an alarm notification through the app to let you know it is time to go outside to meet your bus. The notification settings may be fine-tuned to specific criterion. You can also set how you'd like to be notified. For example, by text message sent to a phone number.

Apps also provide information on service alerts. For example, an annual race through downtown will cause detours near popular routes all day. The app will alert you and provide information on delays on this date for specific routes.

Transportation Initiative

CCDD · COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

UK Human Development Institute