

Initial Online Interview with Blind/Low-Vision Individuals

Initial Online Interview Script—Possible Smartphone App for Blind/Low-Vision Individuals with Information on Intersections and Turning Buses

Topic	Question
Introduction	<p>Thank you for participating in this online interview obtaining information on a possible smartphone app that would provide blind/low-vision individuals with information on buses turning at signalized intersections and the design and operation of the intersection. This information is being obtained as part of a project piloting Smarter Intersections in the area around the Texas A&M University Campus in College Station, TX. The Smarter Intersection provides visual and audio alerts to pedestrians and bicyclists when a bus is turning left or right at the intersection. We would like to learn about your regular travel experiences and any challenges you face in traversing signalized intersections. We would like to hear your thoughts and ideas about possible features in a smartphone app that would make navigating signalized intersections easier and safer for you. Review Study Information Sheet.</p>
General Travel and Crossing Signalized Intersections	<p>I would like to begin by discussing your typical travel and any issues or challenges with travel that are caused by crossing signalized intersections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What types of trips do you make on a regular basis and what modes or services do you use? • Do you currently use a way-finding app or other navigation tool to help plan your travel and as you are making a trip? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes. Please describe the app and the features you use. ○ No • Thinking about the area you live – are there elements that restrict your mobility and ability to reach public transit or other services you use on a regular basis? Examples might be lack of sidewalks, lack of curb cuts, and lack of signals at intersection. • Do you have any specific concerns crossing signalized intersections? • Are there improvements that could be made at signalized intersections that would enhance your travel? • Thinking about the destinations you frequent on a regular basis – are there built environment elements at those destinations that restrict your mobility and ability to reach public transit or other services you use on a regular basis? Examples might be lack of sidewalks, lack of curb cuts, and lack of signals at intersections. • Do you have any specific concerns crossing signalized intersections? • Are there improvements that could be made at signalized intersections that would enhance your travel? <p>Are there any other elements that would make travel in your neighborhood or destinations easier, more convenient, and safer for you?</p>

Topic	Question
Reaction to the Smarter Intersection and Possible Smartphone App	<p>Describe the Smarter Intersection technology and operation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Do you think you would feel more comfortable crossing at this type of intersection than a regular intersection? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why or why not? 2) Do you think you would feel more safe crossing at this type of intersection? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why or why not? 3) What type of information would you find beneficial in a smartphone app to help you navigate this type of intersection? Possible information might include notification of turning buses and the design of the intersection (crossing times, pedestrian countdown times, etc.). 4) How would you like the app to notify you of turning buses? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Noise (beep or other) b. Vibrating c. Other 5) Do you think you would use this type of smartphone app to help you navigate signalized intersections? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why or why not? 6) What types of questions would you have about the use of this type of smartphone app at this type of intersection?
<p>Would you be interested in participating in a test of the smartphone app at a signalized intersection near the Texas A&M University Campus?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No 	
Closing	Thank you very much for your time today. Do you have any questions or final comments as we conclude the session?

Background Information

To be completed by the focus group facilitator or online interviewer.

Sex: Male _____ Female _____

Approximate Age

18 – 34 years of age _____

33 – 49 years of age _____

50 – 65 years of age _____