Y-PLAN, LEAP, & the future:
The Transformation of our Bus Stops

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Adult Pilot (Healthy Richmond + Y-PLAN Partnership)
Ages: Adults 18-24

ISSUE

The City of Richmond's IT Department has a grant to install 5 bus shelters that will serve as public wifi hotspots along 71 AC Transit bus route on Carlson Blvd. For this transit project participants were asked to analyze this already funded roadway project, through a community based lens. Through the participants analysis, they were asked to provide recommendations that included public opinion, as well offer feedback for potential future projects. This Adult Based City pilot program was implemented to continue public involvement in city planning surrounded in Technology and Wifi hotspot projects.

This project was initiated a few years back when youth involved in a Y-PLAN project, implemented as part of the curriculum of multiple WCCUSD (Richmond) High Schools, recommended bus stops with WiFi hotspots in their Y-PLAN Proposals. Since the Climate Action Plan Project in 2015, Y-PLAN for Youth was able to perpetuate these ideas and further expand them into an opportunity to involve Adult Students throughout the community of Richmond. This collaborative continuation of Y- PLAN curriculum has provided the opportunity to expand community involvement beyond youth and shrink the gap between city planners and the Richmond community as a whole.

PROJECT QUESTION
How can the City of Richmond expand public WiFi along bus routes that adults in Richmond use to get to work?

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
- **Facilitators**: Adriana Preciado (Y-PLAN) and John Adams (LEAP)
- **Project Coordinators**: Ryan Bealer (Healthy Richmond Hub) and Myrna Ortiz (Y-PLAN)
- **Students**: Young adults between the ages of 18 - 24
- **Client**: City of Richmond IT Department, Sue Hartman, Henry Lei + Tawfic Halaby
- **Educational Partners**: Center for Cities + Schools, Healthy Richmond Hub, LEAP, The Stride Center, Rubicon, The California Endowment

YOUTH DRIVEN DATA AND INSIGHTS
The community survey created by participants was shared online and has received over 160 responses by Dec. 17, 2017. An interesting point we found from the survey responses was that, although our project focused on 71 AC Transit Bus Route, most of our survey respondents listed bus routes 72 and 76 from AC Transit as more commonly used by them.

Link to Live Survey + Question online: https://goo.gl/forms/mTjVApgmMdM46aI43

RECOMMENDATIONS
Based on survey results and community feedback we found out **WiFi is important** and it would make a difference in how people use the bus, **BUT** people are more concerned about **Efficiency, Accessibility, and Community Health (E.A.C.H.).**

Short Term Recommendations for 71 AC Transit Route
- Free public Wifi (*already happening*)
- Digital Maps (instead of "ticker")
- **Light to signal bus driver to stop**
- Bus shelters with seating (if possible) and USB Charger outlets
- **A shorter and more consistent bus route**
- Bigger more spacious bus stops, including ADA accessibility

We as Richmond residents, BENEFIT from these recommendations!
- All riders of Route 71 would have direct benefits from and access to the new bus shelters and public WiFi
- Based on our survey data, the top routes used by Richmond residents are **72 and 76** AC Transit Routes so we recommend innovative pilot projects for their routes as well.

Recommendations for E.A.C.H. bus stop in Richmond:

Efficiency
- Digital Maps would allow people to know when the bus is coming by following it on the map

Accessibility
- Public WiFi will allow residents to stay connected (to school, work, family, etc.)
- Light Signaling bus driver to Stop will provide a more accessible opportunity for disabled and elderly to can catch the right bus on time
- USB Charger outlets will allow residents to access electricity/power (for example to connect/charge your phone if you need to make an emergency call)

Community Health
- Our recommendations would decrease stress in the community related toward daily transportation planning.
- Reduce the financial burdens related to transportation, i.e. gas, car insurance, uber/lyft
- Increase access to public services (medical,school, food, etc)
- Having these types of bus stops would encourage more people to use public and active transportation, reducing the number of cars on the road, resulting to a potential reduction of lower GHG emissions.

Long Term for all Richmond Bus Stops

- Solar Panel Shelters
  - Safety Call Box
  - Public Use Electricity
  - Lights
- Artistic Seating Ideas
  - Mosaic Art
  - Swings
  - Cadillac Back Seats
- Smart Bus Stops
  - Digital Maps + Free WiFi
  - Community landing page (with Richmond events calendar and activities accessible by bus)
  - USB Charging Outlets

Benefits

Everyone benefits in the community of Richmond. We want to create an environment people are comfortable in and brighten up our neighborhood one bus stop at a time.

- **Our ideas promote local artist to add art to bus stops**
- Unifying our community through public art
- **Increase bus ridership, resulting in less traffic congestion**
- Decrease pollution by using solar panels and having less cars on the streets
- **Increased safety while using bus stops**

LOOKING FORWARD

- Our expected benefits outweigh the costs.
- These proposal ideas increase community and city unity.
- **We expect the client to have continue working with community by constantly** asking residents what the community wants!
- City of Richmond should continue to work with local organizations to reach the community directly, as this Adult Pilot has done.