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VISION

Walking Buddies is an android app that allows UW students to find a group of other students to walk or bus home with. Current alternatives for people working late include a NightRide service that goes to a limited number of stops located in a narrow radius around campus and ends at around 1 am; and a Nightwalk service run by a limited number of police officers who will only escort you to a different spot on campus. This makes it hard for people who live further from campus to ensure that they can also get home safely. Our app, on the other hand, is not limited to areas around campus, or by a set schedule. Students can take comfort in the company of other students on their way home and maybe even make a friend or two while they're at it.

SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE

After registering with the app to become part of the online user database, users submit a request when they decide they want someone to walk with. The request will be matched to other users based on their proximity to each other and the proximity of their final destinations. Matching based on current location will require the use of Google Maps. After requests are matched, the app will open up a chat for the group of people so they can decide the details of when and where to meet. Users will have basic profiles that they can alter as they wish.

CHALLENGES & RISKS

The biggest risk for the app would be a social problem: making the app and the community it relies on safe and reliable. The app would have to help reassure users that they will actually be safe going home with the people they are matched with. To minimize the risk of users not feeling safe enough to use the app, users will have profiles so that others can get to know them before making the decision of whether or not to trust the other student. The app also relies on an implicit trust within a college community.

SAMPLE UI

WALKING BUDDIES

Request Buddy!
Insert final destination



MATCHED!

GROUP MEMBERS


abc@uw.edu
hey where u at

def@uw.edu
thnx 4 being my buddy

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SAMPLE PROFILE

←

 blah@uw.edu

I LIKE:
blah blah
blah

MAJOR
blah blah

CLASS