Photo: usforacle.com

USF Campus Autonomous Transit Feasibility Study

PURPOSE of the STUDY

Recognizing the importance of autonomous and connected vehicles to our transportation future, the Hillsborough MPO sponsored a study on the feasibility of implementing autonomous transit shuttles on the USF campus.

WHY USF?

43,500 students and 14,000 faculty and staff roam the USF campus each day. The campus is nearly 3 square miles. Autonomous shuttles can offer an extra mobility option (e.g., remote parking shuttle). With a campus-wide speed limit of 25 mph, USF is an ideal setting to test autonomous shuttles.

TRANSPORTATION DATA

A variety of transportation data were analyzed to better understand campus trip patterns including Bull Runner bus passenger data, Share-a-Bull bike share data, and SAFE Team night time escort data.

SURVEY DATA

374 student surveys were collected. Over 60% of students said they were likely to use a driverless vehicle.

Top 3 Service Requests included:

- Night time shuttle service
- Remote parking shuttle
- Campus circulator

Cost & Funding

Estimated cost for 12-month demo: $700,000

Assumes 2 shuttles with safety attendants

Potential funding sources:

- USF Student Green Energy Fund
- Federal Transit Administration Automation Research Funds
- Foundation Grants
- Florida Department of Transportation Service Development Funds
- Advertising revenue

Other Considerations

- No special permit required in Florida to own/operate autonomous vehicles
- USF would be covered under the State's liability insurance
- Extra signage recommended for campus
- Current state of technology limits ability of shuttles to make left turns through signalized intersections

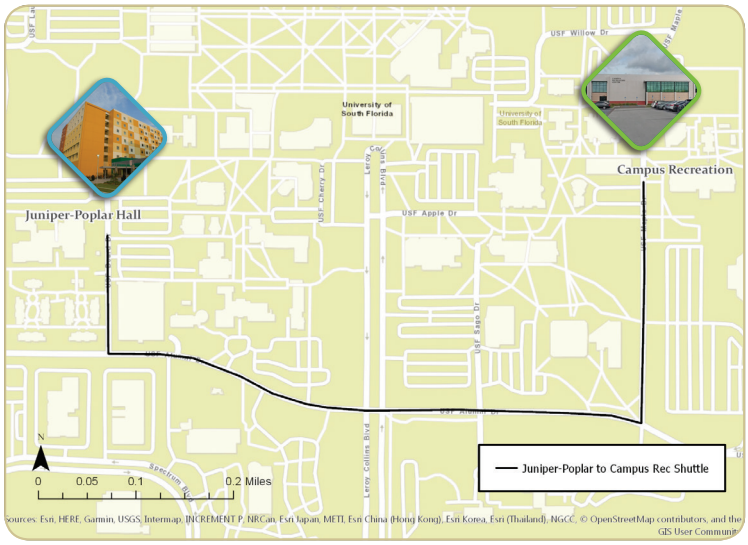
Next Steps

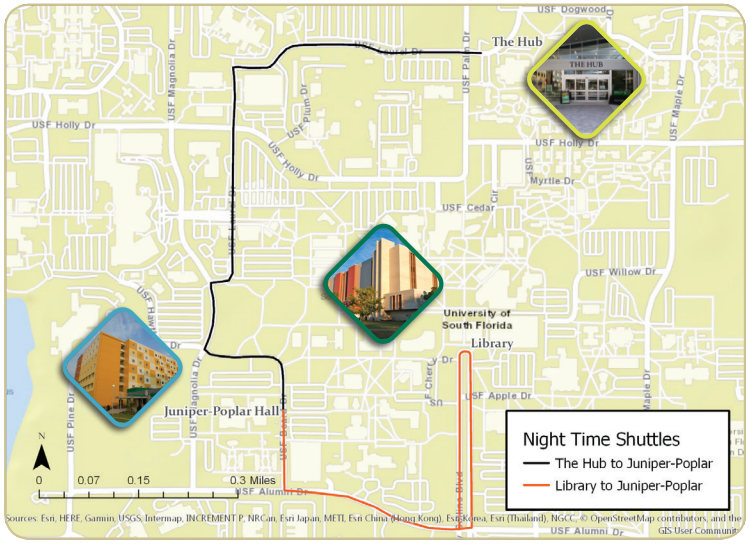
Conduct 2-week demo in Fall 2018

Secure funding for 12-month demo

Prepare and issue Requests for Proposals

Recommended Routes





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Metropolitan Planning for Transportation

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View the full report at:
http://www.planhillsborough.org/usf-campus-autonomous-transit-feasibility-study/