



TO: Vincent Boudreau, President of City College of New York

FROM: Nicholas Christopher Durgadeen, Undergraduate Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: Undependable CCNY Shuttle Buses

DATE: February 4th, 2020

Purpose

Due to extensive student feedback, and personal experience, I want to inform you of the defective CCNY shuttle buses.

Summary

According to the City College of New York website, “shuttle bus services run in a continuous loop between two subway stations – 145th & St. Nicholas Ave and 125th & St. Nicholas Ave”. For student commuter’s convenience, CCNY has also partnered with “NextBus”, a new information system to track and report current positions and arrival prediction of City College shuttle buses. However, as fantastic and assuring this may sound for those who depend on public transportation, it has gone to show this system is impractical and inaccurate.

Discussion

The City College of New York is known to be a commuter school; developing a well-rounded student demographic, representing intellects from around the globe. We have a reputation to provide safe and efficient transportation for students.

The first safety issue that has potential to up-rise is the inadequate shuttle bus service for night students. CCNY offers classes with time slots after sunset, which can pose a potential threat to student safety. According to their website, “we have shuttle buses that run 7:00am-9:45pm, Monday through Friday”. As a student, who is enrolled in a 6-7:40pm class, I have not seen a CCNY shuttle bus available that’s prepared to transport students to either station past five o’clock. Students have to take extra precaution walking to the train stations late at night but if provided reliable service, it can and will remove any sense of worry or panic.

Another issue that puts student safety in jeopardy is the maintenance of the shuttle buses. Either the bus is broken down or needs something changed in its engine, it's being fixed out in the open, surrounded by many students getting to class. CCNY needs to have a secure location for mechanics to properly overlook the status of its vehicles that are responsible for thirty plus students. Students shouldn't be exposed to vehicular maintenance and be intimidated to divert their preferable course to get to classes on time.

The last and most obvious result of unreliable shuttle bus service is tardiness. If shuttle buses don't show on time to either train stations, students are liable to waiting over-time causing them to be late for classes including ADA students who may depend on those shuttle buses. Tardiness plays a role in many professors' grading policy, which can potentially lead for said students to fail out of their course.

Recommendation

I have recommendations that can provide proper solutions to the concerns discussed above.

To address the safety concern for night students, I recommend increasing the number of "shifts" the shuttle buses are in route to 145th and 125th street. If shuttle buses increase the number of stops they make, students can ensure their safety by not walking to the train station in the dark. Furthermore, by increasing the number of stops, it could resolve the tardiness issue as well. Students won't have to worry about their grades becoming effected too.

Lastly, I recommend city college use an alternative place for mechanics to repair the issues with the shuttle buses. It shouldn't be in the same vicinity as the students who walk in front of Marshak and the NAC building. If there aren't any place on campus for mechanics to fix the buses, maybe the university can have weekly reports done so there aren't any surprises that need immediate attention.

If you have any questions, concerns, or responses, pertaining to the subject at hand, please don't hesitate to contact me at (123)-456-7891 or ndurgad000@citymail.cuny.edu.

Best,

Nicholas Christopher Durgadeen