

CITY OF PLAYFORD PLAYFORD CONNECT: DRIVERLESS BUS FAQ



NEXT GREAT CITY

What is the purpose of this trial?

The purpose of the trial is to test driverless vehicle technology as an integrated first and last mile service by linking the Munno Para train station to the Playford Alive Township.

It also aims to understand:

- How other road users respond to this type of vehicle
- How passengers respond to and experience this vehicle
- The technology and infrastructure required to operate driverless vehicles on public road.

The trial also provides a hands-on experience for the Playford community to experience the future of automated transportation.

Is this trial being funded by ratepayers?

This trial is funded through DPTI's Future Mobility Lab Program in addition to in-kind and financial contributions from project partners.



Why is the bus driving slowly?

Currently the EasyMile technology is safe to operate at a maximum of 20km/h.

Where can I find the timetable?

You can find the latest timetable and service information, and book a ride, at <http://playford.rideswithsage.com>

Will it stop at a pedestrian crossing if kids are waiting to cross?

The vehicle will stop at crossings for children and all pedestrians.

Will it stop at a red traffic light?

The vehicle will stop at a red traffic light.

Will public transport options be affected by the trial?

All regular bus and rail services will continue to operate in the area. The existing bus operators are aware of the project.

What happens when an ambulance or emergency vehicle with lights flashing approaches the driverless bus?

The safety operator will take manual control of the bus and give right of way to the emergency vehicle as per the Australian Road Rules.

Isn't council supposed to be creating jobs, not taking them away?

Easymile / City of Playford is committed to bringing high tech skilled jobs to the region. This is similar to no longer needing a blacksmith but creating a whole new job market. Five part time jobs were created during the trial (safety operators on board the vehicle).

Who is liable is there's an accident?

This will be determined by the situation under normal SA road laws.

Why is there a driver on the bus if it's driverless?

The safety operator is to welcome people to the vehicle and explain how it operates. He/she does not actually drive the vehicle but is able to take control of the bus manually if required.

Why is there no signage to explain about the trial / the bus / changed pedestrian and road conditions?

There are signs installed along the route to advise that this is a driverless bus trial zone.



Where will the shuttle be stored at night?

This vehicle will be securely stored close to the route where it will be charged overnight.

What does this shuttle run on?

Electricity.

Is there an emergency button on board?

The vehicle has emergency buttons.

Are there cameras on board?

The vehicle has one internal camera and two external cameras and will be remotely monitored to ensure safety to passengers and the vehicle.

How does the vehicle know when to stop?

The vehicle is programmed on a course which follows 'virtual tram tracks'. The vehicle is programmed and controlled using GPS and LiDAR technology.

Is there a ramp for wheelchairs/prams?

Yes there is an in-built access ramp and the bus is wheelchair accessible.

Can it hit something/someone?

No, the system has a safety net to ensure it does not hit objects.

Is there an emergency exit?

Yes there is an emergency exit.

Can someone hack into the system?

No, the system is secured using state of the art encryption.

Does the shuttle have seatbelts? Is it required under legislation?

The vehicle has seatbelts which is a requirement by DPTI under the terms of approval for this trial.

How many passengers can the bus carry?

The bus can carry up to six passengers.

Can we eat and drink on-board?

No, drinking and eating is not permitted.

Can young children ride on the bus?

Passengers under the age of 12 months are not permitted on the vehicle.

Between 12 months and 4 years old, they must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or supervisor and restrained in a stroller, pram or capsule which is secured in a rearward position.

Passengers over the age of 4 but less than 7, must be seated in rearward facing seat with their seatbelt secure.

When does the trial end?

The trial end date is currently Friday 29 November 2019.