

Project Charter: **Damn Parking**

Business Objective

Americans take an estimated two driving trips daily with each endpoint needing a place to park their car. In the ever growing urban landscape, there will be no shortage in the dependency for parking across the world. In our local survey, four out of five participants reported recent parking difficulties consisting of: locating parking in unfamiliar areas, competing for parking in a crowded location or not knowing the status of a given parking location.

Damn parking addresses these problems with a platform that utilizes cameras to convert live video streams into real time meta data on parking availability throughout a city. Users can also share their current parking location and departure time in exchange for access to available parking for a future time.

Scope Boundaries

The end result of the project will be a working prototype of the Damn Parking application. The website will allow users to view available parking spaces, check parking availability in selected locations, and update information when they are leaving a parking space. The prototype will also demonstrate how camera data could be used to determine whether parking spaces are available or occupied.

The project will include the design of the website, development of the main parking features, a basic parking map, and testing of the prototype. The project will not include installing cameras throughout an entire city, creating a complete city-wide parking network, processing payments, or releasing the application commercially. These features could be added in the future versions of the project.

Constraints

- **Limited access to real-world parking infrastructure:** The team does not have access to a city-wide network of parking cameras or sensors. Camera-based parking detection will therefore be demonstrated on a limited scale as part of prototype.
- **Budget constraint:** The project is being developed with limited financial resources. The team will prioritize free or low-cost development, hosting, mapping, and data-processing technologies.
- **Limited real-time parking data:** Accurate parking availability depends on obtaining current information from cameras or users. The prototype cannot guarantee complete real-time parking coverage for all locations.
- **Privacy and data limitations:** Camera-based functionality must focus on determining parking-space occupancy rather than collecting unnecessary identifying information about drivers, pedestrians, or vehicles.

Assumptions

- Users have access to an internet-connected device capable of accessing the Damn Parking platform.
- Users are interested in knowing parking availability before or while traveling to a destination.
- Users may contribute parking information, such as indicating when they are leaving a parking space.
- Camera footage or sample video can be made available during development to demonstrate parking-space occupancy detection.
- The prototype will operate with a limited set of parking locations rather than complete city-wide coverage.
- Available mapping technologies can provide the geographic information necessary to display parking locations.
- The team will have access to the software development and hosting resources necessary to build and demonstrate the prototype

Stakeholder Register

Stakeholder	Role / Interest	Influence	Primary Needs / Expectations
Drivers / Parking Users	Primary users of Damn Parking	High	Accurate and easy-to-understand parking availability, locations, and navigation information
Students / Campus Drivers	Initial researched user segment	Medium	Reduce time spent searching for parking and identify available or convenient parking
Parking Lot / Garage Operators	Manage parking locations that could be represented by the platform	High	Accurate representation of parking facilities and responsible use of parking data
Camera / Data Providers	Potential source of parking occupancy information	High	Defined and secure methods for accessing and processing parking data
Project Team	Designs, develops, tests, and manages Damn Parking	High	Clear requirements, manageable scope, available development resources, and completion within the semester
Course Instructor / Project Sponsor	Evaluates project management and project deliverables	High	Complete, well-documented deliverables demonstrating appropriate project-management practices
University / Property Owners	Potential owners of parking areas and infrastructure	Medium	Appropriate use of parking infrastructure and responsible handling of camera-derived information

Success Criteria

Criteria	Failure	Marginal	Acceptable	Target	Exceeds
Core Functionality	Prototype cannot demonstrate parking availability	Only some core parking features function	Prototype demonstrates basic parking availability and a parking map	Prototype successfully demonstrates parking availability, selected locations, user parking updates, and camera-based occupancy detection	All target functionality works reliably and additional useful parking features are demonstrated
Budget	Funds deplete before launch, or over spending exceeds 20%	Spending exceeds the budget by 10-20%	Spending exceeds the budget by 10% with basic cost tracking	Spending is at or under budget	Spending is 5% or more under budget with all deliverables
Prototype Quality	Prototype is unusable or cannot be demonstrated	Prototype works inconsistently and contains major usability issues	Prototype is functional enough to demonstrate the project concept	Prototype is stable, understandable, and provides a clear user experience	Prototype is polished, consistently functional, and demonstrates readiness for further development
Schedule	Major Sprint 1 deliverables are not completed by the deadline	Several deliverables are late or incomplete	Required deliverables are completed with minor delays	All planned deliverables are completed by their deadlines	All deliverables are completed on time with additional time available for review and improvement

PM Authority-

The Project Manager is authorized to coordinate project activities, assign and track tasks, organize team meetings, monitor project progress, and ensure that deliverables are completed according to the project schedule and agreed-upon scope.

The Project Manager may make day-to-day project management decisions and address minor scheduling or task-assignment issues. Significant changes involving project scope, major requirements, budget, or project objectives must be discussed and approved by the project team and, when applicable, the Project Sponsor.

The Project Manager is also responsible for communicating project status, identifying risks or blockers, maintaining project documentation, and escalating issues that cannot be resolved within the team.