



Beep, Inc., headquartered in Orlando, Florida, offers autonomous mobility solutions to public and private agencies and communities in controlled speed, geofenced areas as proof points for the safe testing of autonomous vehicles on public roads. In the United States, Beep is currently operating the largest and longest autonomous vehicle mobility network at a single site.

Robo Ride - Peoria, AZ

Snapshot

Launched: February 2020
 Status: Completed
 No. of Stops: 4
 No. of Shuttles: 1 NAVYA



Open Access



Fixed Routes



Public Roads



Station-based



Frequency

Partners

Beep, City of Peoria, NAVYA, Bestmile

THE OPPORTUNITY

The City of Peoria, Arizona was looking for innovative ways to help safely connect people to places along its highly visited P83 entertainment corridor. The area is densely populated with restaurants, hotels, a shopping mall, movie theater and a spring training stadium. As advancements are made in autonomous shuttle technology, municipal leaders in Peoria wanted to test its application in the entertainment corridor. During the pilot, Peoria was able to gauge how riders and the community felt about having autonomous vehicles on the road.

THE SOLUTION

The City of Peoria selected Beep due to their experience in planning, deploying, and managing autonomous shuttle technology throughout Florida. Beep is also the exclusive dealer and operator of NAVYA in Florida. Beep together with city leaders decided the P83 district was the best route for the pilot due to public accessibility and utilization of transit to get to the area.

In February 2020, Beep enabled the solution end-to-end with a NAVYA vehicle along a roughly 1-mile route on Arrowhead Fountains Drive. Through Beep's established relationship with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Beep was able to acquire the necessary federal approvals to operate the shuttles on the mixed-traffic public road consisting of intersections and multiple pedestrian crosswalks

and vehicle traffic. The entire operation was monitored both onsite and remotely through Beep's Command Center, which monitored vehicle health, operation and telemetry and video feeds.

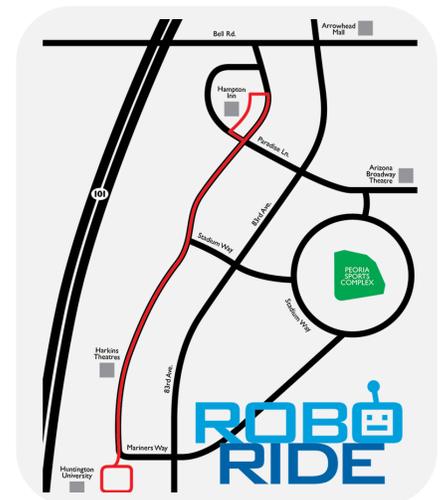
THE RESULTS

Providing the turnkey solution to the City of Peoria allowed city leaders to evaluate how people would respond to a fully autonomous vehicle, and not just a concept. The ROBO Ride shuttles traveled on Arrowhead Fountain Center Drive with four stops in the diverse entertainment area with hotels, restaurants, a spring training sports complex, and a university. During the pilot, Peoria was able to evaluate if the public would use the autonomous shuttle service called ROBO Ride to access the amenities along the route. The area has several hotels and visitors frequently use shared-ride services to get from the airport to the area and many opt out of renting a car to move within about within the community. Peoria was able to test this concept with people who arrive to the area without a vehicle at their disposal.

Garnering public feedback from those who utilized the service was a key piece of data collected during the project. The City of Peoria created a survey with help of Arizona State University to develop questions meant to provide insight from riders and non-riders. According to the survey, respondents indicated overwhelming support for the technology. Of 54 responses, 91% experienced ROBO Ride during the pilot. Respondents indicated that they liked the connections provided by the service as well as the safety, comfort and convenience of the shuttle.



"Peoria has found a fantastic partner in Beep to explore this new technology. Beep handles all the permitting, all the programming, and all the training. We focus on how we want to use the technology and how we get our community involved. It's been great."
- Kevin Burke, Public Works Director (City of Peoria, AZ)



THE BENEFITS

Beep was able to provide an innovative service that allowed Peoria to test alternative transportation in the P83 entertainment district. The first-mile, last-mile solution reduced the dependency of personal vehicles along the corridor and promoted alternative mobility to those who previously utilized ride-sharing services in the area. Senior citizens were eager to try ROBO Ride as they saw the benefit for them as they age. Children and younger adults also were excited to ride. The technology and service demonstrated the ability to provide a first-mile/last-mile solution for people choosing to use transportation other than their own vehicle.

FUTURE PLANS

The City of Peoria sees value in autonomous vehicles and the key role they will play in future travel safety, reduction of harmful emissions and choice mobility options. The city is currently evaluating and reviewing ideas for another autonomous vehicle project in the near future.

PARTNERS

