Uber for Vendors
Vision Statement
by
Github Reapers

TEAM MEMBERS

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Project Statement

Background

Vendors are people/companies that provide property-related services such as plumbers and electricians. The current process of hiring vendors and scheduling appointments is messy inefficient, and can even involve third parties; the vendor, the landlord and the tenant must agree on when to meet. Additionally, vendors and clients have to handle multiple different jobs concurrently while looking for new jobs. This makes it difficult to properly schedule appointment times, and often prohibits an open communication pipeline between the vendors and the tenants themselves. Thus, we are introducing Uber for Vendors, a web application dedicated to making the whole process a lot easier and cleaner. Why go to the trouble of setting up multiple different jobs when a web application can do all of that for you. Forget having to navigate multiple different websites to find vendors when everything can be done for you. Uber for Vendors is here to help.

What problem are we trying to solve?

Currently, one of the biggest problems in the property-related service jobs is communication between clients and vendors. For example, a popular method of finding vendors is to go on craigslist and post a listing in the general labor category and wait for vendors to call. This process is very inefficient since it relies on the fact that clients will answer the call and because it doesn't give clients direct access to vendor's qualifications. Uber for Vendors will address this problem by automatically linking clients with vendors' information and linking a vendor's rating to assure qualification. Additionally, vendors will also have the ability to review client's ratings and information to judge whether they want the job or not.

Why is this problem important?

Getting a leaky faucet fixed or a broken powerline addressed is a burdensome and overly time consuming process. Expediting this process and offering greater communication services

among the vendor, the owner and the tenant offers a quicker solution to these burdening problems.

How is this problem addressed today?

Often, the tenant informs the landlord of a problem. Eventually, the landlord will reach out to an external vendor and must manually schedule an appointment time. Often, this scheduling is inconvenient for the tenant as it may take a long time and may even conflict with the tenant's timetable.

Project Outcome

- Tenants, Landlords, and Vendors will each be able to sign up to Uber for Vendors to create an account. Their profile will be stored in our backend database and authenticated against upon signing in.
- Tenants will be able to sign into our application and request a service. They will enter the type of problem (fix the toilet or lights), a short description of the situation, and the dates & times they will be available to monitor the service. Within an appropriate time frame, our algorithm will have scheduled a time and notified the Tenant.
- The Landlord will be notified upon a service request from the Tenant and will need to authorize the service before our algorithm moves to the next stage. The Landlord will also have the option to choose or blacklist Vendors.
- The Vendor will be able to sign into our application and put in their availability into our system. Our algorithm will automatically assign jobs to Vendors based on their listed availabilities. In addition, because Vendors will vary in how long they take for different tasks, we also give Vendors the option to input their time estimate for different job types. Vendors will also be able to see a beautiful calendar interface that tells them the jobs assigned to them for the day. They also have the option to decline jobs, but only within a reasonable time frame

Milestones: Specification, Design, Prototyping

1.) Static tenant, landlord and vendor pages that offers tenant time availability submission (no persistence)
2.) Creating the tenant, landlord and vendor models (implementation to be discussed) and linking to a persisting database
3.) Implement a robust scheduling algorithm that pulls from the various tables

Project Blueprint

Technology

- Rails hooked w/ a PostgreSQL database
- ReactsJS w/ bootstrap

Process Model

- Daily SCRUMS

- Weekly meetings with Appfolio on Tuesdays 5pm
- Slack and imessenger
- Github Version Control
- Trello Board