CAMPUS REPORTING

On Time or Off Track? Student Perspectives on the Crimson Ride Bus System

By Kai Schultz and Cameron Hall



Photo from original submitted story.

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - The University of Alabama's Crimson Ride bus system remains an important part of student life when navigating campus and surrounding areas. While some students said they experience smooth rides and short waits, others said they have dealt with inconsistencies in the bus system, leaving room for improvement - especially as the university plans to expand its bus systems. For Sophie Vehndt, a nursing major, the system has been reliable.

"They come around pretty often. I feel like there's always one going to and from somewhere," she said. Kyle Bedfield, a sport management major, said that the average wait times are, "five to 10 minutes."

This is lower than the Crimson Rides 12 to 20 minute estimated wait times. Still, not everyone shares the same experience. Nigel Rich, a mechanical engineering major, said he has waited much longer.

"About 20 minutes," he said. "They need to get some more (buses)." While this is still within the systems allotted wait times, students still get frustrated with inconsistent waits.

Some students believe the apartment buses are now too inconsistent to rely on. "I think they should just go back to their 30 minute schedule." Brodie Wilmath, a public relations major, said.

Some students said they question whether the university's planned system expansion will solve problems. "It depends on where and how much they're actually spending," Kiob Cov, who has been late due to bus delays,

said.

Whether the addition of new buses will shorten wait times and reduce route issues remains to be seen, but the investment has already sparked debate.