

EcoPRT – Reinventing the Roadway



The value of EcoPRT to the state of North Carolina:

1. Important new transportation tech
2. Manufacturing and jobs in NC
3. Valuable for growing cities
4. Low-cost solution to traffic problems



Vision

*EcoPRT reinvents the urban roadway,
defining a new standard for an efficient,
low-cost transportation solution.*



Problem

- Need for inexpensive & convenient point to point local transit
- Roadway congestion - too many vehicles on the road
- Inability to scale existing roadway and transit infrastructure
- Cars are parked 90% of the time
- Parking wastes money and space

EcoPRT consists of 3 parts:

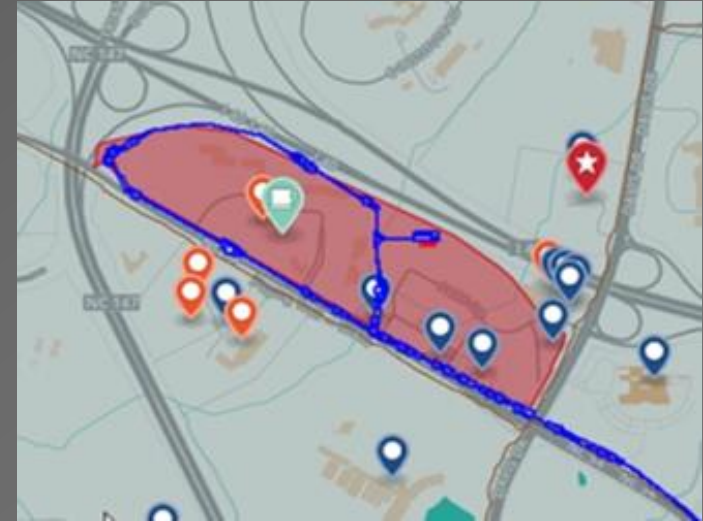
- Vehicles
- Guideway
- Stations



Phase I : Miniature Driverless Shuttles



Courtesy: Nikhil Patil



- Driverless & fully automated
- Advanced collision avoidance
- Air conditioning
- Wireless recharging
- 25 - 40 mile range
- On demand pickup
- Call from smart phone
- Ideal for:
 - Private campuses
 - Shopping centers
 - Bicycle Paths
- Turn-Key Solution
- One Day Setup
- Fully programmable route
- 24/7 self-monitoring

Phase II : Elevated Guideways



- Incremental adaptability – extreme flexibility
- Low-cost elevated guideway
- Use existing roads as possible, build up as needed
- Network of large campuses
- Incrementally extending reach to create city-level network
- Different flavors of vehicles
- Cargo in addition to passengers
- Platooning vehicles for greater throughput

University Deployment: EcoPRT vs Bus

	ecoPRT	Bus
Operating Costs: *	\$1.15M	\$3M ***
Capital Costs: **	\$0.5M	~none~
Travel Time:	5 minutes	25 minutes
Operating Hours	24/7	Limited after hours
Wait Time	~none~	Up to 30 Minutes



- * Operating Costs are Annual
- ** Capital Costs are Annual Costs on an Amortized Basis
- *** Assumes contracted bus service, 10 bus peak operation, 8k passengers/day
- *** ecoPRT assumes total daily miles of 8,000

ecoPRT vs. Existing Driverless Car/Bus

- Small, nimble and flexible (can go on existing paths, not just roads)
- Smaller footprint vehicles can enable them to run indoors as well
- Extensible and scalable infrastructure – can make use of low-cost elevated guideways
- Lower cost

ecoPRT



Toyota Camry



Bus



Light Rail



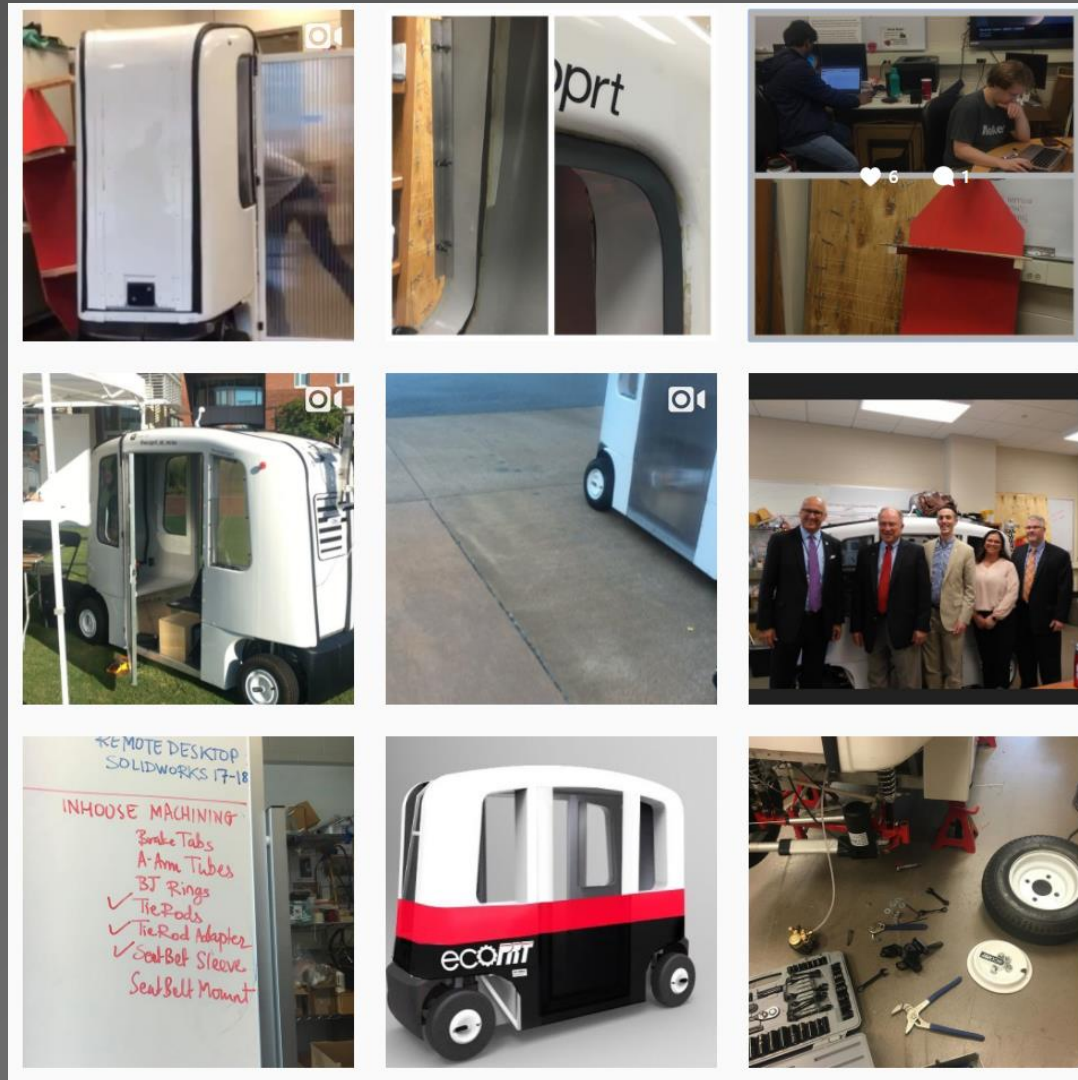
weight 1,000 lbs
footprint 3 x 5.5 ft

3,600 lbs
6 x 5 ft

32,000 lbs
8.5 x 9.5 ft

100,000 lbs
9 x 11 ft

EcoPRT @ NC State University

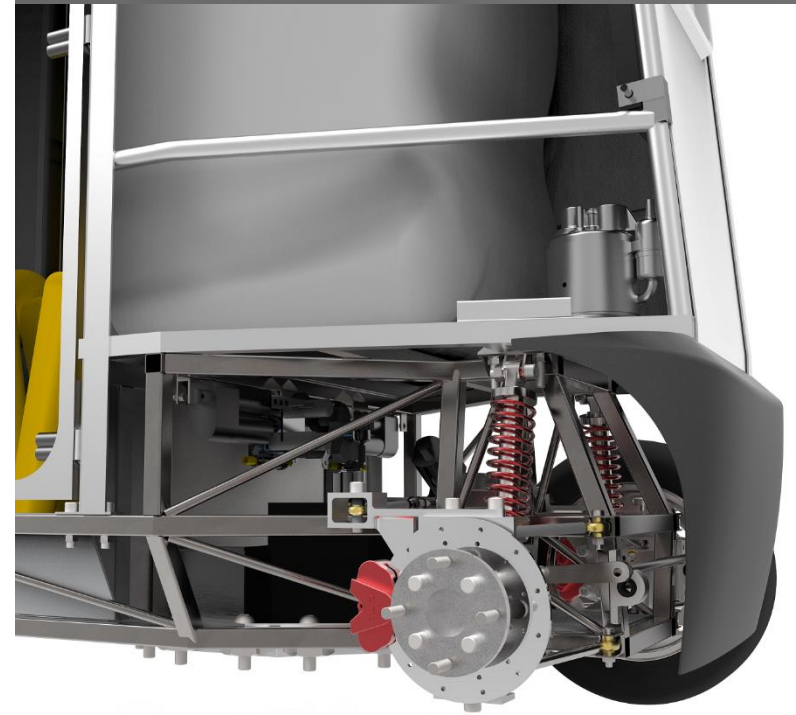


\$500K in funding
Technology Spinout

Student Participation
Multiple Disciplines

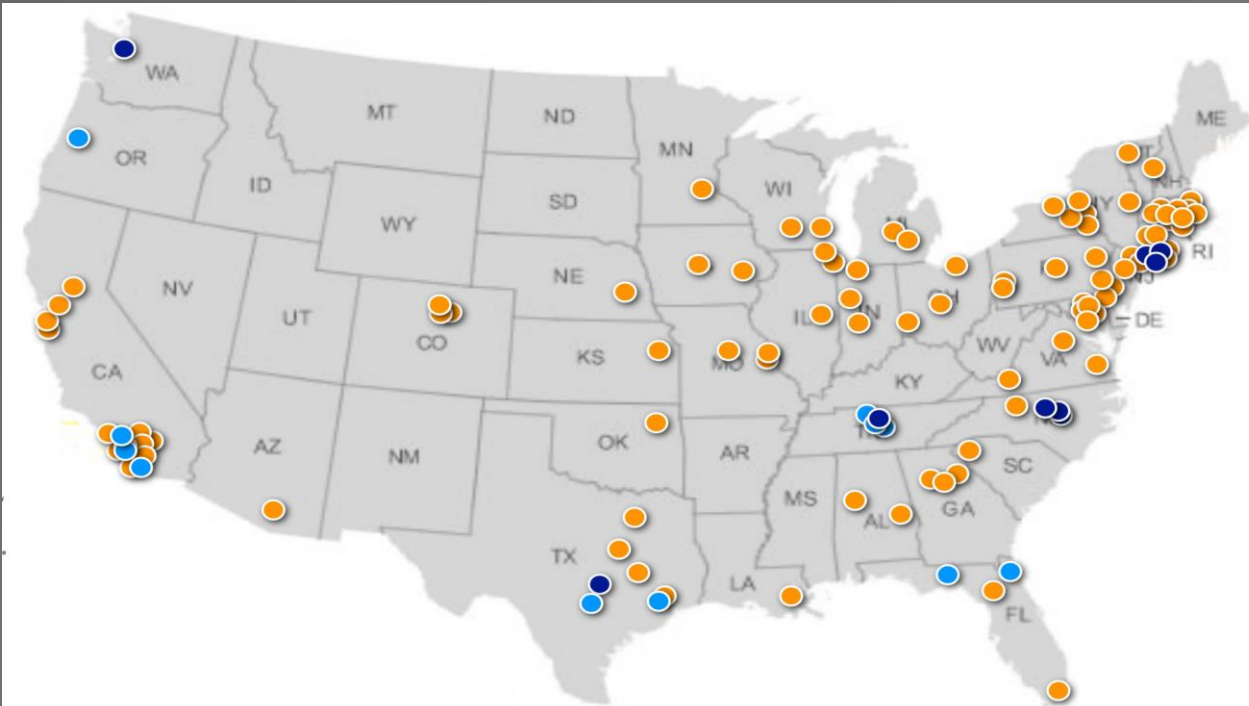


Next Gen Vehicle



Huge Pent-Up Demand

- Large college campuses
- large corporate campuses
- Airports
- Large shopping centers
- Dense urban cores
- Tourist areas
- Theme parks
- And so on...



Roadmap and Milestones

Proof of Concept Vehicle



NCSU Pilot



NCSU Production

Multiple Deployments



- Proof of Concept Built
- Vehicle Testing
- NC DoT Grant \$300k
- RTP Grant \$165k

Working Vehicle

Complete

- Multiple Vehicle Network
- General Passenger Testing
- Feasibility Study

Testing at NCSU

Year 1

- Commercial Vehicle
- System Operational
- Partner Manufacturer

Commercial Operation

Year 2

- Aggressive Deployment
- Expanding existing sites

Expand

Year 3