Private

Participant Information Sheet

Research Title: Auslan Assist for Railway Announcements Phase 1 Stage 1

Researchers: Dr Jessica Korte, Chief Investigator; Dr Maria Zelenskaya, Chief Investigator; Mrs Julie Lyons, Research Assistant.

Thank you for your interest in helping us. Please read this information about the project before you choose to join us. Please ask us if you have any questions about the project.

This project is not about testing you or your skills. We are making a new technology, and we want your help. You get to choose if you take part or not. If you start to take part, then change your mind, you can tell us you'd like to stop, and you do not need to tell us why. If you choose not to take part, or to stop, we won't use anything you've told us or recordings we have of you and will destroy our records of what you've told us and recordings of you if it is possible. If you choose to stop after we have already used something you've told us or recordings of you, then we will make sure your name is not connected to what you've told us. You get to choose if you want to take part in all phases of the project, or only some.

You will be given this Information Sheet to keep, and a Consent Form to sign if you want to take part. Your choice to take part, or not take part, or take part and then stop, will not change your relationship with Sydney Trains or the researchers.

What is this research about?

We will use machine learning technologies to animate a digital avatar that performs accurate and comprehensible sign language interpretations of Sydney Trains announcements. The long-term goal of this project is to make an accessible public transport announcement system that provides equitable information access to the Deaf community. The goal of this exploratory phase is to gather feedback from members of the Sydney Deaf community about their requirements for the system.

This project is supported by Sydney Trains in partnership with Qvest and Queensland University of Technology.

What will I need to do?

In this phase of the project, we want Deaf people's opinions and contributions to the design of an avatar. We will run one co-design session, about 6 hours long, in which we will discuss barriers and supports to smooth railway travel, including strategies you currently employ to gain information about changing circumstances during your journeys; identify whether and how Auslan emergency announcements could support your journeys; give your opinion on example signing avatar, and discuss ways we could improve the example avatar.

We would like to video record your interview or focus group discussion, so we can watch it again later and learn from it. Deaf people, CODAs and interpreters taking part in the project will be paid for their time and expertise.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

For Deaf people, CODAs and interpreters: There will be no direct benefit to you from helping us with this project, but you will be paid for your time.

For the Deaf community: If this project meets its goal, the technology we make could help improve safety and convenience for Deaf commuters.

For Sydney Trains: If this project meets its goal, we will be able to enhance awareness and inclusivity within the Sydney Trains network.

What are the possible risks and disadvantages of taking part?

Phase 1 of this project has very little risk. We know that some Deaf people may have had negative experiences with railway travel in the past that you or other members of the co-design workshop might find distressing. We do not aim to elicit such information, and you can choose to share it only if you feel comfortable doing so.

What will happen to the information about me?

You choose how much information about yourself different people will be able to see and use.

We will ask you to sign the Consent Form if you choose to help us in this project. On the Consent Form, you can choose a codename. This is the codename we will use when we write about the project. The codename can be your real name if you want other people to know what you have told us. If you do not choose a codename, we will call you something like "Participant X" (where X is a number or letter) in our writing. Please do not use another person's name as your codename.

On the Consent Form, you can also choose to give us your email address, to learn how this project and related projects go.

In focus group activities, other people in the group may know who you are, so we cannot promise complete anonymity, even if we use "Participant X" as your codename.

We will store all video recordings in the QUT Research Data Storage Service. They can be seen by people working on this project:

- Dr Jessica Korte and Dr Maria Zelenskaya, the project leads;
- Mrs Julie Lyons, the research assistant.

What will happen if I decide to withdraw?

You get to choose if you take part or not. If you start to take part, then change your mind, you can tell us you'd like to stop, and you do not need to tell us why. If you choose not to take part, or to stop, we won't use anything you've told us or recordings we have of you, and will destroy our records of what you've told us and recordings of you if it is possible. If you choose to stop after we have already used something you've told us or recordings of you, then we will make sure your name is not connected to what you've told us. You get to choose if you want to take part in all phases of the project, or only some.

Can I hear about the results of this research?

You can choose to give us your email address on the Consent Form, to learn how the project goes. If

you do, you will be added to a mailing list, and sent an email when things happen in this project or a related one.

Who can I contact if I have any concerns about the project?

This project follows the Guidelines of the ethical review process of the Queensland University of Technology and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. You are free to ask Dr Jessica Korte or Dr Maria Zelenskaya any questions by emailing them at jessica.korte@qut.edu.au or maria.zelenskaya@qut.edu.au.