



OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 15, 1999

SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL FARE SYSTEM STATUS REPORT

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file status report on Universal Fare System (UFS).

ISSUE

The Board has requested a bi-monthly update on the UFS Project.

DISCUSSION

Project overview

The UFS project is a coordinated set of specifications, procurement requirements and operating agreements that will enable seamless inter-modal and inter-agency electronic fare collection throughout Los Angeles County. During the next three fiscal years, MTA and other operators will procure and operate compatible systems as a regional initiative to improve transit travel speeds, increase transit ridership, and increase fare revenues. In addition, the UFS system will be integrated with the MTA's Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS).

Administrative activities since July 1999 Board update

- Booz, Allen & Hamilton expects to complete draft specifications for the UFS Ticket Vending Machine and the UFS Farebox in September. The specifications are undergoing industry and peer agency review. Final specifications will be completed in October.
- The UFS Money Committee has evaluated UFS administrative structure options (including a centralized and distributed structure). The Committee is favoring the distributed model and will make a presentation to the General Managers by the end of month.

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Transportation
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- Following selection of the model, detailed business rules will be developed for regional processing of inter-agency transactions and other shared functions, i.e., cooperative purchases, card distribution and re-loading, data system management, and regional marketing.
- UFS-funded solutions for the Metrocard Y2K problems - Each operator continues to work directly with GFI-Genfare to implement the appropriate solution for their specific GFI farebox models and the Metrocard system components.

Procurement activities since May 1999 Board update

- MTA has issued a solicitation of proposals for interim Electronic Transfer Issuing Machine (ETM) component of the UFS system. A proposed contract is expected to be presented to the Board in January 2000.
- Staff is continuing discussions with GFI-Genfare to incorporate the firm's Metrocard components and operating system into the UFS. Staff has obtained necessary software and component interface specifications from GFI. In addition, staff has incorporated a menu list of Metrocard components in the UFS and TVM specifications. The selected vendors will be afforded access to the necessary data specifications and will have the option to procure Metrocard components directly from GFI.
- In November 1999, staff expects to issue a single (or multiple) RFP (s) for rail ticket vending equipment, fareboxes and integrated data/financial management systems. The RFP(s) will also have an option for a UFS turnkey proposal that will include design, installation, maintenance and operation of the MTA electronic fare systems, with the exception of cash processing. Procurement options will also be incorporated for agencies that wish to procure their UFS systems with MTA.

NEXT STEPS

A Gantt chart for the UFS project is attached (see Attachment 1). Key dates are:

- Complete negotiations with GFI-Genfare for UFS Metrocard components / software - July 1999
- Select UFS management structure / begin business rules development - September 1999
- Complete agency peer review of Specifications - October 1999
- Issue RFPs for UFS equipment - November 1999
- Award contracts for UFS equipment - June 2000

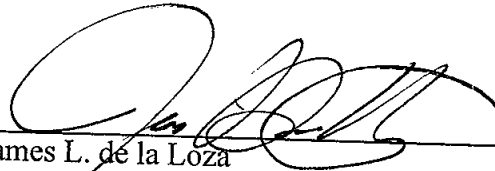
Prepared by: Steve Lantz
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Attachments

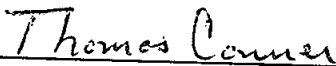
1. UFS Gantt Chart



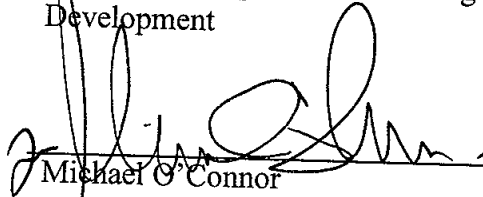
Keith L. Kinlough
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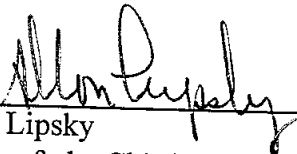
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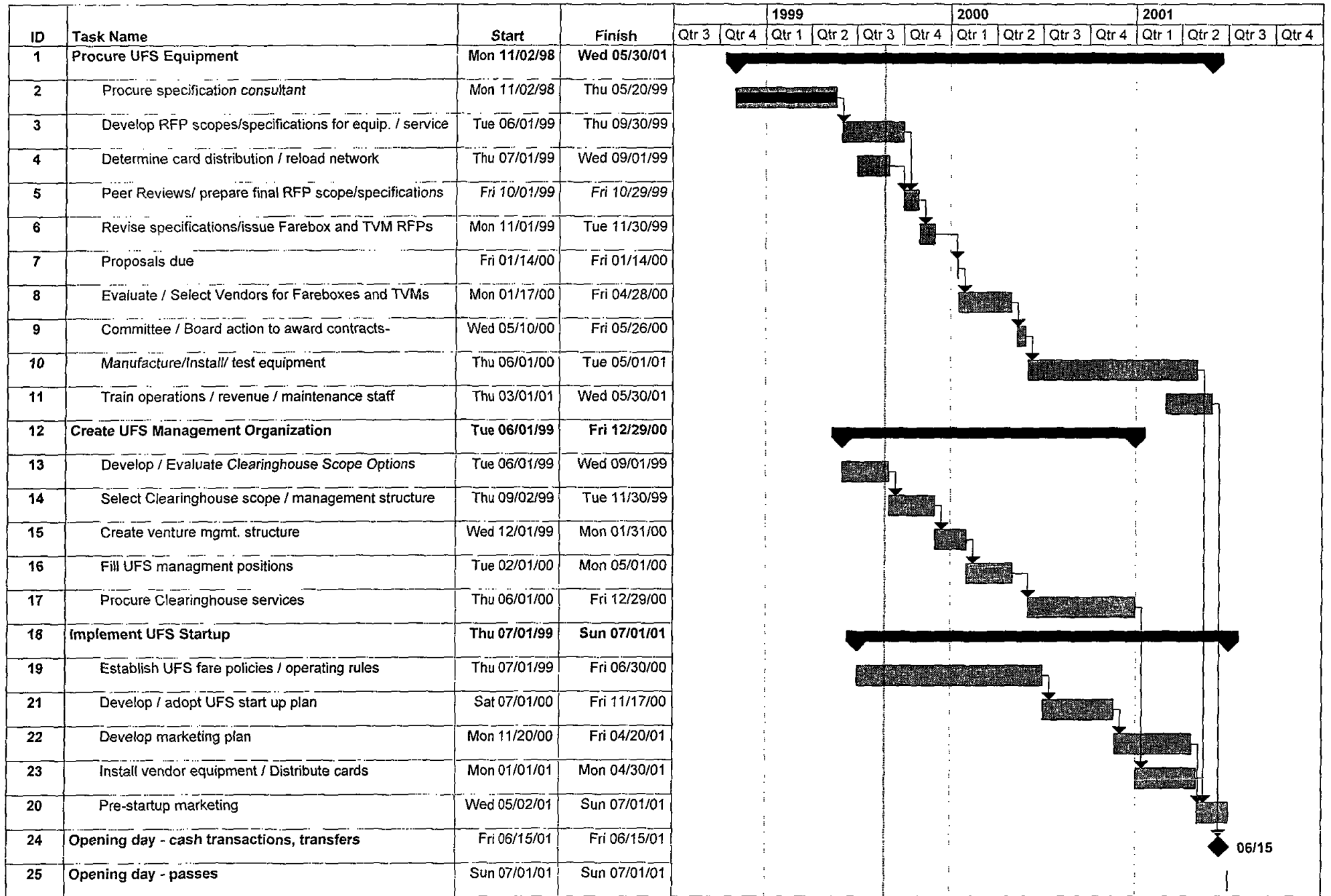


Michael O'Connor
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Procurement



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Universal Fare System Gantt Chart



06/15