



Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA  
90012-2952

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**November 17, 1999**

**SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL FARE SYSTEM (UFS) STATUS  
REPORT**

**ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE UFS STATUS REPORT**

**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 September 1999 Board update**

- Booz, Allen & Hamilton completed draft specifications for the UFS Ticket Vending Machine and the UFS Farebox. The specifications are undergoing industry and peer agency review. Final TVM specifications will be completed in November. Final farebox specifications will be completed in January, once the ATMS Systems Technical Manager develops the Smart Bus conceptual integration plan for the universal operator control unit.

- The UFS Money Committee prepared and presented to the General Managers a policy paper that establishes the decentralized framework in which the UFS program will be administered. Following approval by the General Managers, the Committee will develop the detailed business rules and administrative requirements of the adopted structure.

#### Procurement activities since September 1999 Board update

- MTA has evaluated proposals for interim Electronic Transfer Issuing Machine (ETM) component of the UFS system and expects to recommend award of the contract at the January 2000 Board meeting.
- 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.
- Installation of the GFI Odyssey 2000 fareboxes at CulverCity Bus and Montebello Bus Lines is expected to be completed in November 1999. Upgrades to the Norwalk Transit and Foothill Transit Metrocard systems should be complete in December 1999. The Watch Computer (GFI's interagency central computer data system) should be operational, with funds control in effect, during December 1999.

#### NEXT STEPS

Three Gantt charts for UFS project components are attached (see Attachment 1). Key dates are:

- Complete negotiations with GFI-Genfare for UFS Metrocard components / software - November 1999
- Select UFS management structure / begin business rules development - November 1999
- Complete agency peer review of Specifications - October - December 1999
- Issue RFPs for UFS TVM equipment - December 1999
- Issue RFPs for UFS Farebox equipment - January 2000

Prepared by: Steve Lantz  
UFS Project Manager

Attachments

1. UFS Gantt Charts



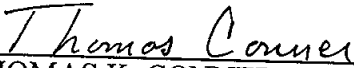
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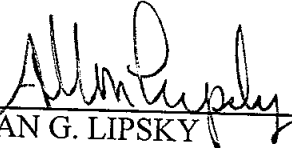
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Procurement

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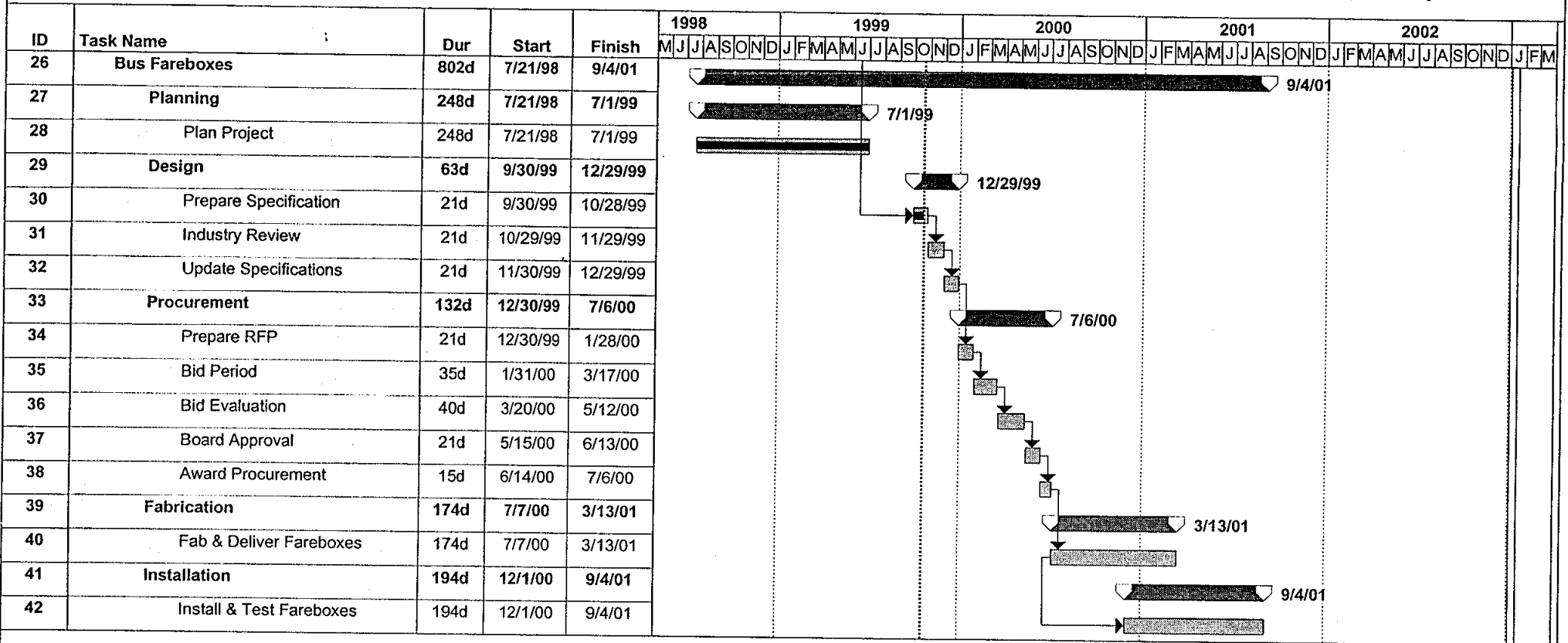


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ALLAN G. LIPSKY  
Office of the Chief Executive Officer



### FARE COLLECTION SYSTEM



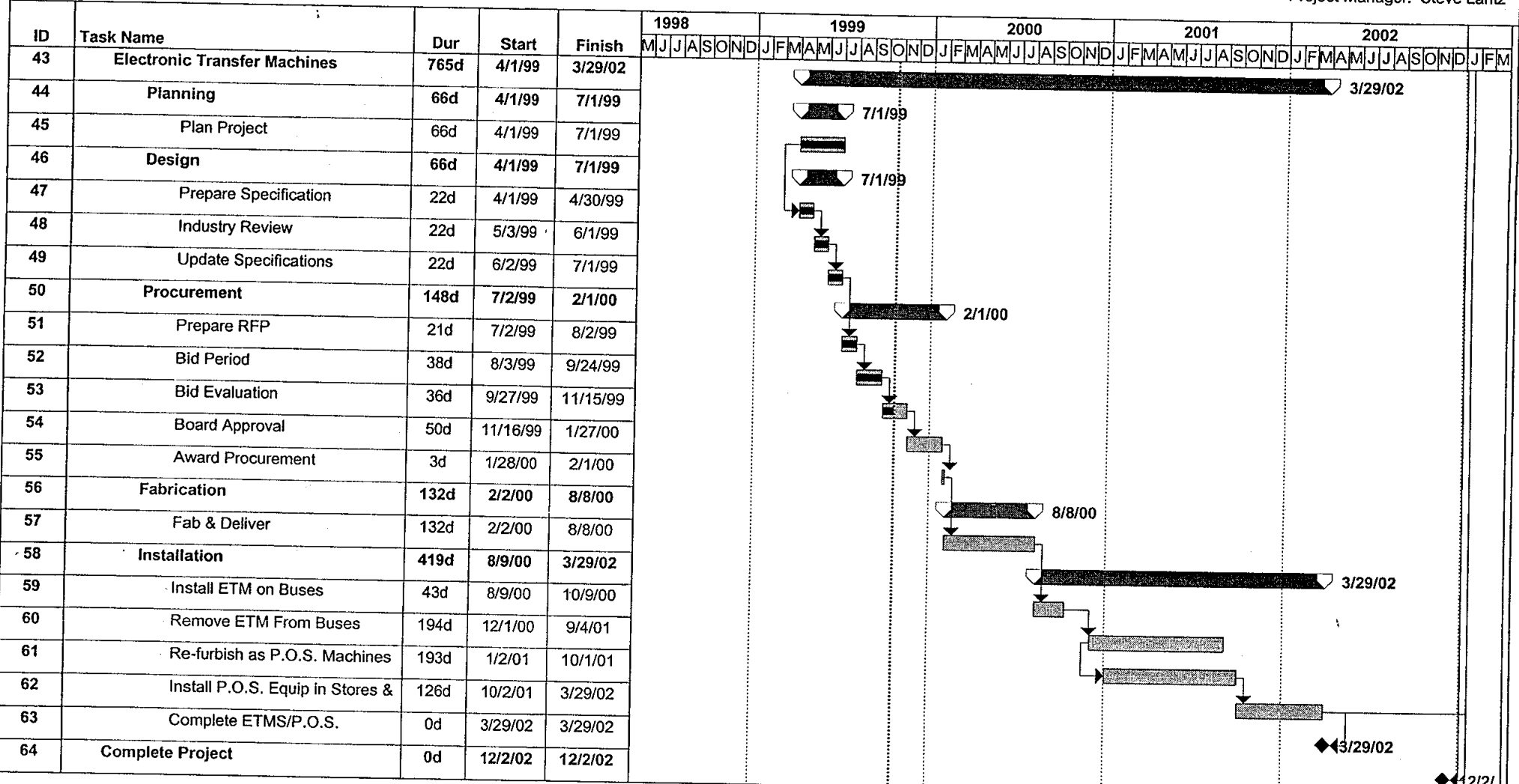
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Milestone   
 Task





Task Summary   
 Project Summary

Progress

**FARE COLLECTION SYSTEM**



Data Date: 10/19/99  
 Print Date: 10/19/99

Milestone  Task Summary  Progress   
 Task  Project Summary 