Project Phase Plan: Definition Phase

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1 Project Summary

Several services exist to connect renters to landlords, the environment for dedicated rental apps is still an open one. As single purpose web apps become more ubiquitous, users have come to expect more than what online classified such as Kijiji can offer.

The goal of this project is to develop a cross platform web application that provides a better way for tenants to find housing, and better way for landlords to fill vacancies. One of the most successful businesses to come out of web applications, AirBnB, is built on a similar premise. By providing a simple, single purpose interface, it harnessed a market that was currently dissatisfied with the requirements of posting advertisements for short term housing.

AirBnB has served as a case study for property based business.

2 Specification of Requirements

3 Preliminary Project Plan

3.1 Current Phase: Definition of Requirements

Identify resource and knowledge requirements. Develop hosting ecosystem and set up developer environment.

3.2 Design

3.3 Development

3.4 Testing

Testing of all applications (Browser based, Mobile platforms), will be a continuous part of the development phase. At each feature milestone, the new features will be added to the staging build for presentation to the customer for approval and recommendations. Once all features have been integrated, the staging build will undergo a period of robust testing of all pages and features.

3.5 Acceptance

Upon completion of testing, the staging build will be migrated to the production platform and presented to the customer. Any requested final modifications will be made in the staging build. Migration will again take place from staging to production until the final acceptance signature is provided.

4 Development Environment

4.1 Server Environment

The application will be hosted in multiple locations based on the stage of development. Each team member will have a virtual **Development Environment** on their working machine. This will low members to work regardless of internet connectivity and without fear of conflicts with other testing. Changes will be integrated into a **Staging environment** to ensure that integration into the cloud hosted environment is successful. Once all features are complete, the application will be migrated to the **Production Environment**.

Each enviroment will be built as a LAMP stack. LAMP provides the Linux operating System, Apache Web Server, MySQL database and PHP CGI scripting. The application will be developed using **Laravel 5**, an open source PHP framework.

4.2 Front End Framework

One of the most important aspects of any public application is the aethetics and functionality of the interface. Providing a novel, useful service, behind an ugly or unusable interface is enough to doom a product. Several front end frameworks exist to aid in te rapid development of useable cross platform interfaces. To fill this need, the Bootstrap front end framework will provide the groundwork for our front end developers.

4.3 Documentation Maintenance

There will be two main collections of documentation:

- Developer Documentation

- Feature Documentation

5 Acceptance Criteria

6 Design Proposal