Team ROWLET

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**APP: Farely**

*A fare-focused budget tracker*

**Problem Overview:**

Transportation costs, especially for fares (such as jeepneys, tricycles, taxis, and buses), are often overlooked in users' overall budget tracking. While people might focus on large expenses like rent or groceries, daily or weekly transportation costs add up over time and can be a significant strain on finances. An interface or system is necessary to help users track their transportation fares efficiently and make them aware of their spending patterns.

This system will focus on simplifying the process of tracking these costs and provide users with insights into how much they're spending on fares.

# Description of the Important Characteristics of the Users

**Target Users:**

* Commuters: People who use public transport daily (jeep, buses, tricycles) or occasionally.
* Ride-booking App Users: Individuals who use services like Grab regularly.
* Budget-Conscious Users: Users who are interested in understanding and managing all aspects of their finances, including transportation.

# Characteristics of the Tasks Performed by Users

* Fare Entry: Users will input their transportation costs manually but with ease and systematic steps.
* Fare Categorization: Users will need to categorize the fare (e.g., jeep, taxi, ride-share).
* View Summary/Reports: Users will access weekly/monthly summaries of their transportation costs.
* Set Budget/Track Spending: Users may set a fare budget for the month and monitor how their actual spending compares to it.

# Characteristics of the Task Environment

* Users will primarily interact with the app via smartphones, so the design needs to be mobile-friendly, responsive, and quick to load.
* Users may need to input fare amounts manually. Users might be in a rush (e.g., while commuting), so it is crucial that the interface is not only clear but also optimized for quick interactions.

# Structured Task Analysis

* Task: Add a fare.
  1. Open app.
  2. Choose fare category (e.g., subway, taxi).
  3. Manually input fare amount
  4. Review and confirm.
  5. Save entry.
* Task: View fare summary.
  1. Navigate to the "Summary" section.
  2. Choose period (week/month).
  3. View breakdown.
  4. Review total expenditure.
* Task: Set budget limit
  1. Navigate to “Set Budget” tab.
  2. Set budget limit (month or week)
  3. Save budget.

# System Flowchart

A screenshot of a phone

Description automatically generated

# Analysis of Existing Systems

Existing fare-tracking systems are often part of bigger financial management or transportation apps. For example, some transit apps track ride expenses but do not provide detailed reports or budget management like Grab.

Strengths:

* Some systems provide basic tracking for specific transit systems (Grab App)
* Ride-sharing apps automatically track and store trip costs. Weakness:
* Lack of comprehensive insights across multiple modes of transport.

# Description of the Larger Social and Technical System

The app will need to work seamlessly across different platforms (iOS/Android). It may also require collaboration or permission from other services and transit systems for data sharing.

# Usability Criteria and Measurement

* Users should be able to quickly input and view their fares, with minimal steps required.
* The interface should be easy to understand, with clear labels and navigation.
* The app should be fast and responsive, especially when users input fares in real-time.
* Users should be able to easily correct any errors in fare entries.
* Collect feedback for overall satisfaction.
* Measure how long it takes users to add a fare or view a summary.
* Conduct usability testing with a sample of users to identify pain points and areas for improvement.

# Discussion of Implications

* Since users may be commuting while using the app, the system should focus on quick and easy data entry, minimizing typing or complex navigation.
* Visual aids like graphs or charts for summarizing fares will be crucial to help users quickly understand their spending patterns.