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NOTICES

- You may experience some audio difficulties with these videos due to buffering issues.
- For the best video viewing experience, we recommend setting your monitor's screen resolution to 1074 by 768 pixels or higher.

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The Feasibility Study with Alternatives Analysis

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You are here…

- ✓APD Overview
- ✓Planning APD
- ✓*Feasibility Study – Alternatives Analysis*
- ✓Implementation APD
- ✓RFPs and Procurement
- ✓APD Updates
- ✓Getting to Go Live
- ✓Project Management

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As the Culmination of the Planning Process

- **Provides results of the analysis and feasibility of various automation alternatives**
- Describes the proposed automation project
- Provides the initial management plan for acquiring, developing, testing, and implementing the selected alternative

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Overview of the Feasibility Study

- A preliminary study that determines whether the project being considered is technically, financially, and operationally viable
- Is directly linked to the Functional Requirements Document (FRD) in that the FRD is the baseline against which various approaches are assessed
- **Must include an <u>alternatives analysis</u>**

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Alternatives Analysis

- Analysis of alternatives for hardware, software, and functionality
- Demonstrates if a system is feasible – technically, financially, operational, and programmatically
- **Demonstrates which alternative is the "best fit"**

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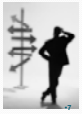
Alternatives Analysis
What's the Point?

Demonstrates which alternative is the "best fit"

- *Technically*
- *Financially*
- *Operationally*



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What are "Alternatives?"

Alternatives MUST include:

- Transferring a SAM (WIC only)
- Transferring a system from another State (SNAP)

Alternatives MAY include:

- Upgrading or enhancing the existing system
- Transferring a system or components from another State
- Integrating with other systems (Medicaid, etc.)
- Developing a new system from the ground up

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Alternatives Analysis

The number of alternatives is driven by the State agency; as long as the same analysis and methodology are applied to each alternative.

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Alternatives Analysis

- How will changes to existing systems and processes be met (interfaces, data exchanges)?
- Organizational effect upon personnel and skill requirements
- Data conversion activities required

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Alternatives Analysis

- Operational impacts on existing procedures, user relationships, system support plans
- Resource effects during development and operations
- Cost to operate the new system once implemented

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Alternatives Analysis is essential in determining the best direction for a State to take in developing a new system.

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It's all about making an Informed Choice

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Alternatives Analysis How to do it?

- Perform a gap analysis of program functional and technical requirements
- Analyze how many changes would be needed for each alternative to meet your needs
- Define your goal to meet your needs for a more efficient process

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Functional Gap Analysis

Alternatives must include the analysis of technical and programmatic merits of possible system transfers.

Functional gap analysis is imperative in identifying changes to a potential system.

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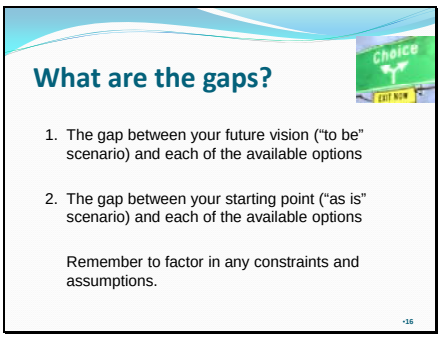

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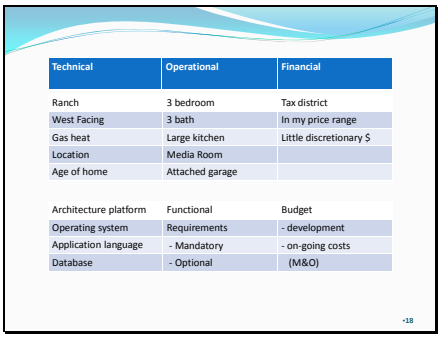

Technical	Operational	Financial
Ranch	3 bedroom	Tax district
West Facing	3 bath	In my price range
Gas heat	Large kitchen	Little discretionary $
Location	Media Room	
Age of home	Attached garage	

Architecture platform	Functional	Budget
Operating system	Requirements	- development
Application language	- Mandatory	- on-going costs
Database	- Optional	(M&O)

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	Oak Grove	Beverly Hills	Remodel
3 bedrooms	X		?
3 baths		X	?
Ranch		X	X
West Facing	X		X
Large Kitchen	X	?	?
Attached Garage		X	X
Close to work	X		X
Close to schools	X		X
Media Room		X	X

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What to consider!

- Choose alternatives carefully!
  Do you have state software standards that may impact what you transfer?
- Are you open to changing your business rules to match that of a possible transfer?
- What are your mandatories vs. nice to haves?

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Alternatives Analysis
How NOT to do it?

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What NOT to do!

- Shop alone
- Let the realtor choose for you
- Sign contract w/o knowing the true price
- Make your choice based only on less than the whole picture
- Dismiss remodeling – too dull/not new
- Choose the “right” neighborhood, “wrong” house

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- When you've compared each of your alternatives to your requirements….
- And considered the gap between each alternative and your desired future…
- And then done the cost/benefit analysis on any options that appear feasible….
- And chosen the BEST option for you

Then you have the material to write your Feasibility Study to show which alternative is the most technically, financially and operationally feasible!

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Cost-Benefit Analysis

- Determines which alternative will provide the greatest benefits relative to its costs
- Identifies the tangible and intangible benefits
- Provides the estimated cost of developing and operating each alternative

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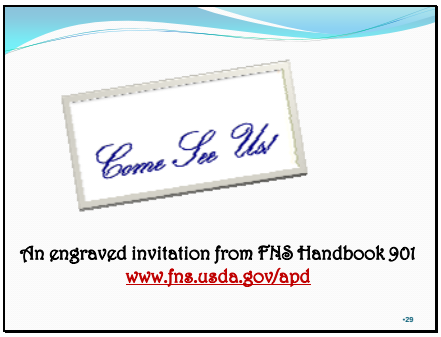
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