Questions from Arches Pre-Proposal Meeting, March 20, 2019

1. What is the legacy data and in what format is it stored? Can it be shared?

   The legacy data consists of information about the approximately 12,000 sites (25,000 if one includes condo units) on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. It is stored in a series of linked Access databases. It is arranged by street address and includes location information (address components, street code, zip code, census tract, etc.), property tax account number, designation information (date, district, classification, etc.), historical information (construction date, architect, name, etc.), and descriptive information. The address, tax account, and designation information are complete for every entry. The historical and descriptive information entries are not complete. It can be shared. If you would like samples of the current Access databases, please email jon.farnham@phila.gov or Abigail.Poses@phila.gov

2. The RFP indicates that Arches will be installed on a City of Philadelphia server. Would a cloud-based installation be considered instead?

   Yes, a cloud-based installation would be considered. A successful response to the RFP will weigh the pros and cons of an in-house and external server and suggest the optimal solution to the problem.

3. What requirements and/or restrictions does the City of Philadelphia impose on software that is installed on its servers? Is it possible to access City servers remotely to install and configure software?

   We are still looking into these questions.

4. Will the Arches installation include the new work flow functionality? If so, what data deriving from business processes will be captured?

   The Philadelphia Historical Commission (PHC)/Department of Planning and Development (DPD) plans to implement the Arches work flow module at some point. It is not addressed in depth in the RFP because that part of the Arches software has not yet been released, even if it will be soon. A proposal that incorporates work flow module functionality into the current phase would be looked upon favorably, but it is not an absolute requirement at the current time. With this functionality, the PHC/DPD hopes to capture information related to the following processes: building permit application reviews; PHC reviews of building permit applications at public meetings; appeals of PHC decisions; citations for violations of the preservation ordinance; Section 106/National Register of Historic Places eligibility reviews; and contacts related to specific properties. The PHC can share a draft of the information that would be collected for each process type. If you would like a pdf of the proposed data fields that would be stored in Arches, please email jon.farnham@phila.gov or Abigail.Poses@phila.gov

5. What information can be provided about the City's enterprise-wide GIS capabilities? What version of ESRI does the City use? What information is captured and mapped as GIS layers?

   - The City of Philadelphia uses ESRI products for its GIS capabilities.
   - The website http://metadata.phila.gov lists what data is maintained by the City, whether it's publicly available, and what the endpoints are for use by the public (ArcGIS Online, Open Data Philly, etc.)
   - The Philadelphia Historical Commission is using ArcGIS 10.6 (but that can be updated, if necessary) and the DPD GIS Department uses both ArcGIS 10.6 and the most up to date version of ArcPro.

6. Will Arches share information with the City of Philadelphia's eCLIPSE system, the permit management system currently under development for the City's Department of Licenses and Inspections? Where can I find information about eCLIPSE?

> The PHC/DPD hopes to connect Arches with the City's permit management system at some point in the future. The RFP does not include a requirement that Arches communicate with eCLIPSE, but a proposal that discuses the possibility of that functionality would be looked upon favorably. eCLIPSE is being developed by Computronix and runs on its POSSE Enterprise Platform.

7. Will Arches pull property data from other sources like the City of Philadelphia's Atlas system? Where can I find information about Atlas?

> The City of Philadelphia maintains a website called Atlas that provides a variety of information (including zoning, property assessments, permits, etc.) on every property in the city. While connecting Arches to Atlas could be useful in the future, there is no requirement in the RFP to link the two systems. Here is a link to Atlas: https://atlas.phila.gov/
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> Atlas's codebase is open source on GitHub:
> https://github.com/CityOfPhiladelphia/atlas
> Also, the API they designed to fetch data for Atlas is on GitHub:
> https://github.com/CityOfPhiladelphia/phila-vue-datafetch

8. Does the RFP require the implementation of the functionality to share data with PA Share, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) proprietary data management system currently under development? Where can I find information about PA Share?

> No, the RFP does not require the implementation of that functionality, but it does require a plan or proposal to implement that functionality. For information about PA Share, Merrick Berg, the IT Project Manager, is the contact, c-mberg@pa.gov

9. Are geo-coded historic maps available for Philadelphia?

> The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, a private library and architectural archive in Philadelphia, runs several websites related to the history of Philadelphia's built environment including Philadelphia Architects & Buildings (PAB) and Philly GeoHistory, a website with links to numerous historic maps, many of which have been geocoded. The websites are available here: http://www.philaathenaeum.org/

10. How is the project funded?

> The Arches project is funded with DPD money, a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (the State Historic Preservation Office), and a grant from the Mayor's Fund for Philadelphia (a foundation that supports City activities).

11. Is the project schedule outlined in the RFP flexible?

> The project schedule outlined in the RFP flexible is aspirational. Applicants should propose realistic schedules and should explain the reasons behind deviations from the proposed schedule. Applicants should bear in mind that the project funding has some hard limits.

12. Where can I find information about obtaining any licenses to conduct business in Philadelphia and paying any fees and taxes?

General information about obtaining a commercial activity license and paying business taxes in Philadelphia can be found at:
https://www.phila.gov/services/business-self-employment/

Also, some information at PHDC's website under the heading "How to become a PHDC contractor" may be applicable: https://phdchousing.org/rfps-rfqs/