## Building the Bridge between Development & Asset Management

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#### **Building the Bridge between Development & Asset Management**

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### Asset Management

An integral part of every housing development business and a key to nonprofit sustainability

### Leadership Goal

#### Create an asset management operation that is:

- A financially sustainable operation and over time contributes resources to sustain and maintain the portfolio
- Contributes to the long term sustainability of the organization
- Grows to meet the needs of a growing and aging portfolio
- Expands its capacity as opportunities become available

### Leadership Responsibility

#### Establish the importance of asset management in the organization

- Reporting lines demonstrate the importance of asset management
- For new transactions insure asset management has a voice in development decisions around materials, sustainability, financing, and reserve requirements

#### Treat it as a business line

- Establish annual and long term goals, both programmatic and financial
- Give decision authority (subject to normal review and approval procedures) for year 15 transactions
- Responsibility for revenue generation through annual property distributions and fees, refinancing and sale

### Organizational Structure

#### Asset Management can be –

- 1. A free standing division reporting to an ED, CEO or COO +++++
- 2. A part of Finance and Administration reporting to the CFO ++++
- 3. A part of Property Management ++
- 4. An individual (with or without staff) who reports to the head of the organization (but not on a line with major operating divisions) ++
- 5. An individual within Property Management that reports to the Director of Property Management +

Each structure effects how AM is viewed within the organization.

### Asset Management is a business line

- Create a 5-year plan for Asset Management as part of the organization's business or strategic plan
- Have goals for staff growth to match portfolio growth and needs
- Include goals for handling year 15 LIHTC transactions and make Asset Management responsible for developing policies and procedures and having a plan for each property in the portfolio
- Establish standards for annual income allocated to Asset
   Management (i.e. development fee, asset management fees, cash
   distributions from operations, etc.) and include 5-year projections of
   revenue and expense for Asset Management

## Giving Asset Management a Voice in the Development Process

Asset management can-

- 1. Have a representative in standing development group meetings
- 2. Have an opportunity to review and offer comments to the proposed operating budgets, construction scope of work, and building design
- 3. Review and comment on final presentations to the CEO, development committee or Board, as appropriate to the organization's systems
- 4. Participate in developing organizational policies for materials selection, sustainability standards
- 5. Work with development to create a pipeline of projects that balance up front developer fees with long-term revenue generation

### Allow Asset Management to be Creative

#### Portfolio management should include:

- Securing grants and other funding to deal with property issues, make properties more energy efficient, and address shortfalls in RFR funds
- Refinancing of existing debt to take advantage of favorable interest rates and terms and generate revenue to meet organizational and property needs
- Allocating resources to create an internal revolving fund to provide resources to carry out portfolio preservation objectives
- ... and oh so many more things

Asset Management is about managing and fostering a portfolio to support the mission and health of the organization.



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#### WHY WE NEED A BRIDGE



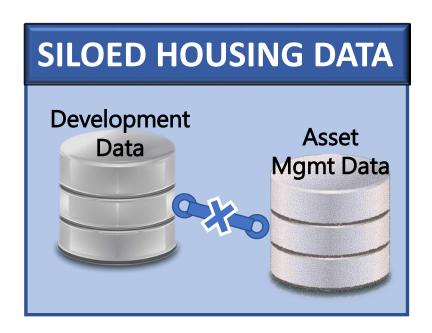
**Development data often resides in:** 

- Excel spreadsheets
- Custom built databases; or
- Construction monitoring and disbursement software.



#### Portfolio data resides in:

- Excel spreadsheets;
- Asset Management built software; and
- Loan Servicing software.





#### **DEFINITION OF SILOED DATA**

A data silo is a situation wherein only one group in an organization can access a set or source of data.

Multiple departments may store the same, similar, or complementary data – but separately.



#### UNINTENTIONAL CAUSES OF SILOED DATA

**Cultural:** Competition between departments can cause some employees to keep data to themselves, rather than sharing data and working together.

**Structural:** May stem from a hierarchy separated by many layers of management and highly specialized staff.

**Technological:** Purchased and custom built databases may not "speak" to one another, and they may be too specialized or costly to be used by multiple departments.



### Problems caused by silos in affordable housing



Requires SME's for each software system or database;



Leads to further segregation between Departments;



Makes it difficult to measure exposure and risk;



Proves difficult to compile high level reports that include pipeline, production, and portfolio data.



#### **Benefits to BRIDGING THE GAP**



Use portfolio metrics to guide investment decisions



Remove data redundancy, the chance for data entry errors, and double counting;



Ensures that relevant information is included in the investment decision



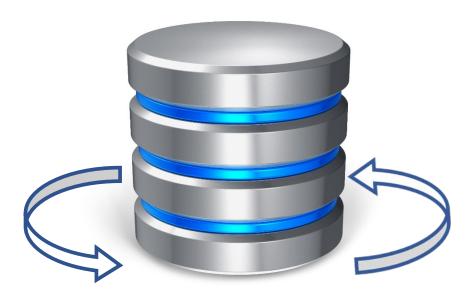
Bridging the gap enables all stakeholders to see the big picture.



Use one secure database to manage all housing data;

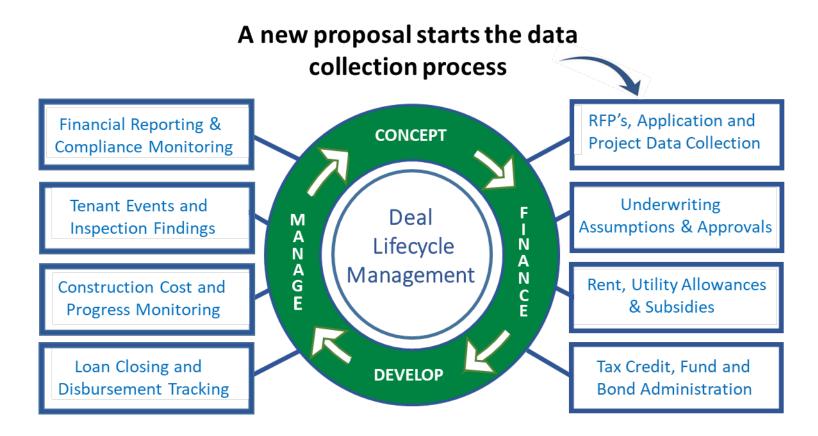
#### **SINGLE DATABASE**

Provides a 360° holistic view of your housing data



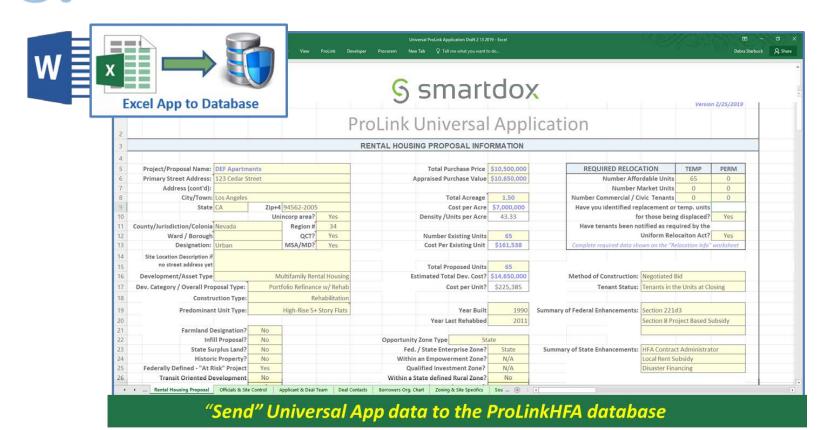


2. Collect data through the life cycle of each housing deal;





Automate data collection practices





Asset Management, Compliance and Development groups should share the following types of data for informed business decisions:

- Rents
- Vacancy Rates
- Inflation Rates
- Tenant Turnover
- Actual Utility Costs
- Developer performance concerns
- Management Company performance concerns

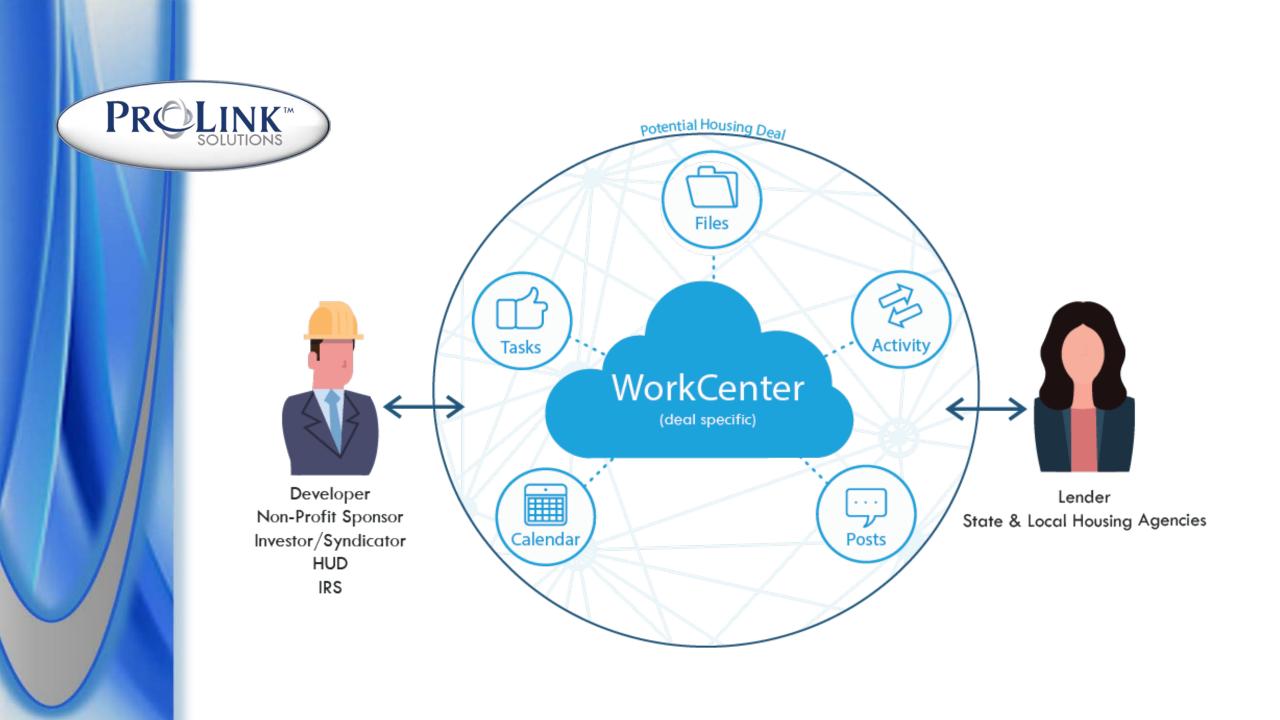
- Actual Operating Costs
- Repair & Maintenance Costs
- Property Management Fees
- Net Income & DSCR
- Reserve Balances



# Data sharing – it's the right thing to do

Good data analytics isn't related to skill or technology – it's simply about having access to the right data at the right time in the right place so you can use it to make a decision.







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