Farewell MAPS, Hello OPS!

OPRE All-Staff Meeting October 6, 2021

What we'll cover today

- Who we are
- The problem we were asked to address
- Our proposed solution
- How we'll get there

We're a team of engineers, product managers, designers, and acquisition specialists

18F is an office within the General Services Administration that partners with agencies on projects like modernizing software development processes, improving public-facing services like websites, and digitizing and streamlining internal systems.



Nina Mak
Product Management



Carly Jugler
Engineering



Amy Mok Engineering



Alex Soble Engineering



Julia Lindpaintner
UX Research / Design



Nikki Lee Account Management



Elizabeth Ayer
Director, Human Services
Portfolio

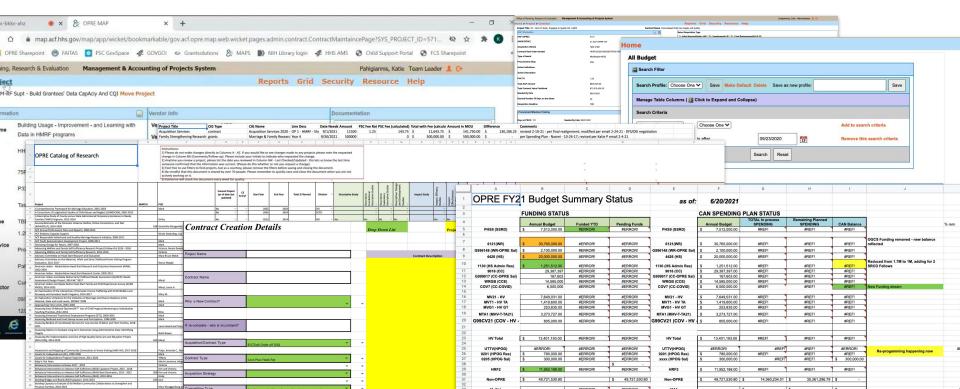
The problem

MAPS is a critical tool, but doesn't meet OPRE's needs and is hard to change

While MAPS is infinitely better than the system it replaced, OPRE has grown and its procurement and budgeting needs have evolved from the time when MAPS was built.

MAPS, however, was not designed to grow or scale in the ways OPRE needs.

We talked to OPRE staff about their work and analyzed MAPS' technical infrastructure



TL;DR — MAPS is appreciated, but there's a lot of room for improvement

We heard you say you'd benefit from:

- A more intuitive user interface and user experience
- Added functionality to automate and centralize tasks
- Better workflows so that workarounds aren't needed
- More ability to provide feedback and customize MAPS

"But wait," you said, "there's more..."



You told us that you had dreams of doing more than just improving MAPS

- Access and update information about the projects that OPRE is working on in one centralized location
- Catalog OPRE's projects and answer questions about research topics, populations, methods, and spending
- See which projects staff are working on all in one place and plan for future staffing
- Experiment with different scenarios to plan your budget

Our proposed solution

Introducing OPS: OPRE's Portfolio management System

The vision for OPS

OPS will empower managers and staff with the visibility they need into OPRE's research, evaluation, and data activities, as well as streamline budget and administrative tasks.

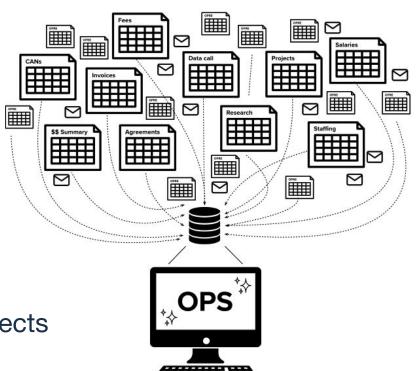
With this system, it will be easy for OPRE to plan and manage projects so they can spend less time managing the work and more time building evidence to improve the lives of children and families.

OPS will become **OPRE**'s one-stop-shop for:

- Budgets and invoicing
- Procurements, grant-making, and payments
- Project descriptions and characteristics
- Project staffing and workforce planning
- ... and more!

What that will look like

- Fewer emails to complete budget and administrative tasks
- Fewer data calls to respond to
- Fewer spreadsheets to maintain
- A single source of truth about projects that anyone at OPRE can access
- More time on the work you want to do



How we'll get there

In government, a lot of tech projects have tried to make the perfect thing on the first try.

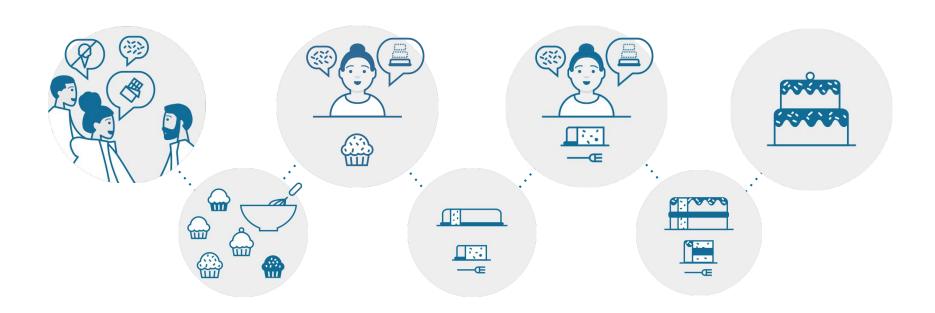
Often the people who will use it don't know what it will look like until it's launched.



That approach is risky and historically, it hasn't worked very well...



Instead, we will work iteratively and get continuous feedback from you along the way



MAPS won't go away until its functionality (and data) exists in OPS

First tier

Budgets & invoices (CANs, contracts, invoices)

Second tier

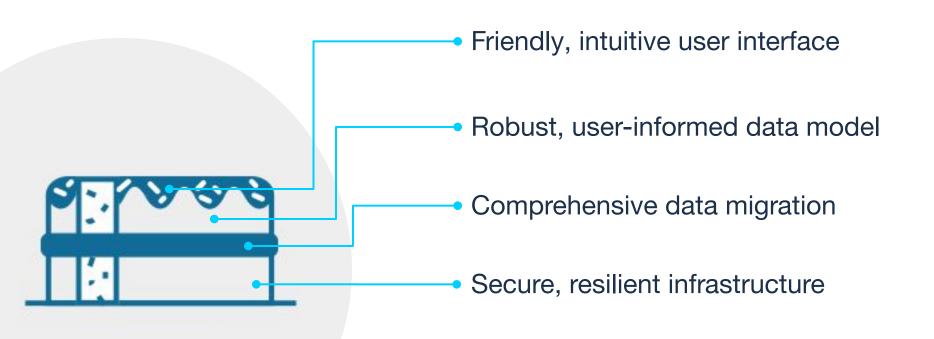
Procurements

Third tier

New functionality like the project catalog and staffing management



We'll be working on all the layers of that first tier over the next several months



We can't do this without your input!

There will be multiple opportunities to provide input and participate in research activities

- Listening sessions with folks with different roles and responsibilities in the organization (e.g., Division Directors, Team Leads, Project Officers)
- Collaborative design workshops to help define future features
- Testing prototypes of new features and interfaces
- ... and more!

You can stay in the loop in a few ways:

- We'll share monthly updates via email highlighting developments and announcing opportunities to participate
- Our Sharepoint folder will house our updates and other materials, like this presentation
- Bi-weekly live demos of the stuff we're working on are open to all OPRE staff
- You can share your thoughts in Menti polls

We look forward to working with you!

OPS Team

OPRE

Sheila Celentano

Omkar Kuber

Emily Schmitt

Camille Wilson

Catherine Workmeister

18F

Carly Jugler

Julia Lindpaintner

Nina Mak

Amy Mok

Alex Soble