NARA Open Government Plan 2014-2016
Overview – April 1, 2014

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) will develop its third Open Government Plan for 2014-2016 during the second and third quarters of FY 2014. NARA will seek feedback from the public, stakeholders, and employees in the development of the plan. The Open Government Plan will be aligned to NARA's new Strategic Plan and the second Open Government National Action Plan. The following proposed initiatives represent highlights of actions that will increase transparency, participation, and collaboration at NARA.

- **Develop Crowdsourcing Tools to Unlock Government Records**
  NARA will sponsor Presidential Innovation Fellows (PIFs) to lead open development of crowdsourcing tools to help unlock data from record formats and allow the public to easily contribute to the records of the National Archives. These tools will build upon the agency's crowdsourcing efforts, which have included the Citizen Archivist Dashboard, transcription projects, and scan-a-thons. The PIFs will engage citizen developers and citizen hacking communities to create thriving open source projects. *(Flagship Initiative)*

- **Modernize the Online Catalog of the National Archives**
  NARA will improve the scalability of the online catalog of the National Archives to handle hundreds of millions of additional digital and digitized records. NARA will enhance search to allow users to more easily find records within the vastly increased online content. NARA will optimize the catalog for mobile devices and develop a public API to fuel the reuse of National Archives records by the public. *(Flagship Initiative)*

- **Expand Citizen Archivist and Wikipedia Efforts**
  NARA will develop features in the agency's online catalog so the public can directly contribute tags, comments, transcriptions and translations to records. NARA will also launch a project that will allow the public to subtitle historical films and improve accessibility. NARA will work to make all digitized National Archives records available on Wikimedia Commons for use on Wikipedia, exponentially expanding reuse of our records. *(Flagship Initiative)*

- **Modernize Management of Government Records**
  NARA will support efforts to modernize records management across the government by working with agencies to identify and remove hurdles to automating electronic records management. NARA will work with agencies to implement new guidance that will allow agencies to manage both permanent and temporary email records in an accessible electronic format by the end of 2016. NARA will also collaborate with industry to establish basic requirements and voluntary metadata standards to make it easier for individuals to search publicly-available government records.

- **Establish a FOIA Modernization Advisory Committee**
  NARA will work to establish and chair a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Committee, comprised of government and non-governmental members of the FOIA community, to foster dialog between the Administration and the requester community, solicit public comments, and develop consensus recommendations for improving FOIA administration and proactive disclosures.

- **Develop Common FOIA Regulations and Practices for Federal Agencies**
  NARA will participate in the interagency process to determine the feasibility and the potential content of a core FOIA regulation that is applicable to all agencies and also retains flexibility for agency-specific requirements.

- **Implement Declassification Referral Notification and Tracking System**
  As part of the work of the National Declassification Center, NARA will implement a referral tracking system that will automatically notify appropriate representatives of other departments and agencies when classified records containing their classified equities require declassification review. The referrals covered by the system will include those for the records of the Presidential Libraries. The system will help ensure that departments and agencies meet yearly referral review deadlines.

- **Implement the Controlled Unclassified Information Program**
  NARA will establish a program to standardize processes and procedures for managing Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI). Over the next year, NARA will issue implementation guidance, with phased implementation schedules, and an enhanced CUI Registry that designates what information falls under the program.

- **Enhance Services to Researchers and the Public**
  NARA will improve and expand the essential activities that foster public learning and engagement with National Archives records. NARA will create a unified national outreach program and work to enhance researcher reference services to make using records easier. NARA will update online content to improve awareness about public services and facilitate path-finding.

- **Establish Digitization Governance**
  NARA will develop a digitization program that will support the strategic initiative to digitize all analog archival records. NARA will establish a digitization governance board and update the agency's digitization strategy. NARA will expand digitization partnerships and harness digital copies that are created across the agency to make them available online.