The two option we have for the document management are storing all of our documents in the parent site and having the subsites access the document accordingly. The biggest issue with this method is figure out a way of distinguishing between the different departments and authority level without creating dozens of security groups. However, security groups can be created programmatically using Visual Studio and a little C# code so redeploying the security groups can easily be done once we code it.

The other option is to use a SharePoint feature known as document routing to send the document to the document library of the subsites as it finishes the work flow. Once the document is sent to the subsite, it can trigger another workflow. The biggest issue with this is the work flow step where the document is being sent to the other departments. If we need the comments from the other departments to be sent back to the requester, the document routing method will not have a way to combine the comments. Instead, each comment will be sent back individually.