Oceanside, California
Case Study

> "Streamlining our budget process with Questica Budget has saved the City three months in the compilation of budget information ."
>
> Teri Ferro, Retired Financial Services Director

About Oceanside

Located in San Diego County, the City of Oceanside is on the coast between San Diego and Los Angeles. With a population of 173,000, Oceanside is the third largest city in the County.

The City is well known for sites such as the Oceanside Pier, and Mission San Luis Rey de Francia. The City has been working on recovery plans to move beyond the financial crises that much of the United States (U.S.) has been faced with.

Business Challenge

The City's previous budget process had many of the typical elements, and faced the same issues as most local governments. The City of Oceanside was required to prepare a combined biennial budget of $315M. Each department had a designated "budget rep" responsible for preparing and managing the budget. Department budgets were created in separate excel spreadsheets.

Once department budgets were complete, the representatives sat down with the Finance team to review and prepare a consolidated budget spreadsheet. The Finance team had three employees dedicated full-time to this process. The consolidation proved to be challenging, as no business rules existed with regards to how the departments laid out or tracked their budgets. With no consistency, the process of finding the necessary data was extremely difficult. In addition, changes to budgets were often submitted in any number of methods including spreadsheet, word document, email, even as informally as handwritten. This caused a major issue with version control as there was no way to be certain the correct data was being used, and Finance would often pick up the wrong data and source files.

Linking was also an issue. With the original budget data stored in such a segregated and simplistic manner, there was no way of linking budget data back to its source, no backup file information available and no shared historical data.

The process was so disjointed, the City ended up exhaustively spending numerous man-hours in trying to reconcile and present a balanced budget. Access to real-time accurate data was difficult. At any time, the City Manager could request a budget update and it would take upwards of one week to compile the necessary information to give an accurate picture.

Population

173,000

Financial System

Oracle

Business Need

Oceanside has been working to recover from the financial crises faced by much of the U.S. The City needed a solution that provided them with accurate, integrated budgeting information.

**Questica Budget
(Capital, Operating, Salaries)**

The City of Oceanside decided that Questica Budget would give them the control and accuracy they required.

Business Benefits

- Reliable Financial Picture
- Flexible, Integrated System
- Transparency
- Time Savings
- Robust Salaries Module
- Forecasting

Want to know more about Questica Budget Suite? **Visit questica.com.**

Solution

The City knew they had issues they needed to resolve through an integrated solution and went to RFP to find vendors. They reviewed six different tools and were pleased with the features and benefits of Questica Budget. The responsiveness of the Questica team helped confirm that Questica Budget was the right solution.

Business Benefits

Oceanside was anticipating several benefits with Questica Budget, however, they've been very pleased to recognize additional ones they hadn't expected.

Reliable financial picture

Having come off a frustrating budget preparation cycle in '07/'08, the City was eager to find a solution that would provide them with a trustworthy and complete budget.

With Questica Budget, users can attach historical data and documents, providing a roadmap for decision making. The Finance team now has confidence that the budget they are presenting to Council is an accurate picture of their financial needs and that past issues such as missing support documents, broken links, and outdated budget figures are no longer a concern.

Flexible, integrated system

Questica Budget's flexible, integrated system allows everyone involved in the budget to quickly access the data they need, at the level of detail required. Since all budget representatives have access to their budgets online, changes can be made directly to the system and the impact of that change is available immediately.

Integration with the financial system ensures that the budget data users are seeing is the most current. Questica Budget automatically updates the actuals daily and additional updates can be made on demand, by staff, with the click of a button.

Transparency

Given the challenges faced by governments these days, transparency is ever more important. Constituents are more sophisticated than ever – they're demanding more detailed, and immediate access to budget information. With Questica Budget, internal resources are now able to access the most current data available. Departmental budget data is no longer hidden away in a file controlled only by finance.

Time savings

The streamlining of the process with Questica Budget has resulted in a savings of close to three months. The old process took months, beginning in December, for the finance staff to compile the information. With Questica Budget, departments aren't required to begin inputting budget data until March. The Finance team works on verifications, calculations and adjustments in April and May and a final document is presented to City Council for adoption the first week of June.

Robust salaries module

At first, the City was a bit skeptical that the Questica Budget Salaries module would be able to deliver as promised. However, they were pleased to discover that the module was extremely robust and could handle all the complicated calculations they required of it.

Now when Finance works with labor groups, they can run all the necessary scenarios for each bargaining group, even with the complex range of employees that are involved. Changes and modifications can be made, in response to changes in labor groups, on a group level, or down to specific employees and aren't limited to traditional contract timeframes, or budget cycles.

Forecasting

The City is just starting to explore the forecasting capabilities of Questica Budget. Due to the current fiscal environment they're facing, being able to understand the financial picture both today and in the future, is a huge benefit. Proactive steps can be taken to create a more sustainable financial picture for the City both short and long term.

"With today's challenging economic conditions, the City's management needs up to the minute budget estimates and forecasts to make informative financial decisions. Questica Budget has gone beyond our expectations in that capacity."

Teri Ferro, Retired Financial Services Director

Thanks to more efficient budgeting, Oceanside is brilliant.

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East Hampton, New York
Case Study

> "With a town of our size, financial and operational decision-making relies on timely and accurate data. Having that data available and being able to analyze and report on it through Questica Budget is a huge advantage."
>
> William Wilkinson, Town Supervisor, Town of East Hampton

About East Hampton

The Town of East Hampton with a population of 20,000 is comprised of the village of East Hampton, along with several nearby hamlets. Located in Suffolk County, the Town is the easternmost town in the state of New York. With its proximity to the Atlantic Ocean, numerous bays and harbors East Hampton's beaches provide the prime attraction for its residents and visitors alike.

Business Challenge

The Town of East Hampton had a straightforward process for budget preparation. However, the Town was faced with a fiscal crisis and a lack of confidence in the previous administration. Thus, the new administration was mandated with spending cuts and with developing a zero-based budget to ensure the cuts were made in the most effective manner.

Budget preparations began in August with departments receiving their prior year-to-date budget data in an Excel spreadsheet. New budget data was then entered in, either electronically or manually.

The Finance team compiled these individual worksheets into a master document with a budget total worksheet. The result was a very static budget that required a great deal of time and effort to make any changes required. Relying so heavily on Excel also brought the challenge of ensuring that formula errors didn't occur, and that cells were properly linked.

Salaries and benefits offered additional challenges. Budgets were developed based on prior year's budgets, with applied increases. Since the figures were based on assumptions, not on actual numbers, over-budgeting was a frequent issue.

Associating salaries and benefits data to specific employees proved impossible with the existing system. This data could only be associated on a broad level — so actual costs were out of sync with budgeted costs. One of the Town's budget objectives for the year was to eliminate costs through attrition of staff, so it was critical that these numbers be understood and budgeted for accordingly.

Budget accuracy, transparency and access to real-time budget tracking were key to the Town meeting its financial objectives.

Population
20,000

Financial System
Munis

Business Need
Budget accuracy, transparency, and access to real-time budget tracking were key to the Town of East Hampton in meeting its financial objectives.

Questica Budget Capital & Operating
Questica Budget Questica Budget now provides the Town of East Hampton with the tools they need to prepare, track, and react to needs and changes.

Business Benefits
- Powerful reporting
- Budget transparency
- User-friendly
- Time savings
- Customer support

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Solution

Recognizing the benefit of using a budgeting software solution, a key member of the finance team recommended Questica Budget. Having previously worked with the software, she knew it would not only meet the Town's functional requirements, but that the software was cost-effective and easy to implement. After seeing the caliber of reports that we could produce, the rest of the team was convinced that Questica Budget was the right decision for them.

Business Benefits

Questica Budget integrated easily with the Town of Hampton's existing infrastructure. Having completed the first budget cycle with us, the following benefits have been experienced:

Powerful reporting

Our reporting tool is powerful—over 100 reports are available out of the box. The running of these reports simple and the format ensures that presentation to council is straightforward. Reports are well laid out and easy to understand and users can drill up or down as much as desired.

In addition, the Town developed a couple of custom reports, including a Position Costing Summary, which shows employees and benefits by department, rather than by fund. A new Budget Document Report shows a baseline budget indicating last year, this year, year-to-date, current budget, and budget variance from last year.

Budget transparency

Transparency is important as governments are faced with increased scrutiny over the effectiveness of their budgets.

Using Questica Budget, the Town of East Hampton is now able to provide immediate, real-time budget information. We integrated with the Town's Munis financial system, allowing users to access real budget data at the click of a button.

Questica Budget automatically updates with the budget data from the financial system, every night. Should an immediate update be required outside of this, the process is as simple and in a matter of minutes, real-time data is available.

Approached by a member of council for specific employee data, the Finance team could immediately pull the detailed information together for them.

User-friendly

Questica Budget was designed with the user in mind. The grid-like layout mimics the look of Excel, minimizing the learning curve for new users. The application is intuitive, and the help tool is available at every step.

Time savings

While the zero-based budgeting approach will allow the Town to ensure that their budgets are efficient and free of unnecessary operations, it can be a longer process, having to enter data from the ground up.

Questica Budget provides a quick and accurate method of entry, ensuring the accuracy of data and linking different cost centers together, as required. Budget data can be immediately available from cost center level right up to the overall budget picture. Supporting documentation can be linked to cost centers, providing history on budget decisions.

The complexity of salary and benefits calculations becomes straightforward and daily tracking easier.

Customer support

The Town of East Hampton has been very pleased with the level of customer support they've received throughout all stages of the implementation of Questica Budget. Even when a few issues arose, Questica's team worked to ensure quick and suitable resolutions.

Thanks to more efficient budgeting, East Hampton is brilliant.

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Palo Alto, California
Case Study

> "Implementing Questica Budget has saved us over $85,000 in productivity savings annually."
>
> Walter Rossmann, Former Director – Office of Management and Budget, City of Palo Alto

About Palo Alto

With approximately 66,000 residents, the City of Palo Alto is located 35 miles south of San Francisco and 14 miles north of San Jose. The City of Palo Alto is more than 100 years old and is named after a majestic 1,000-year-old coastal redwood tree along San Francisquito Creek. As the City known as "Birthplace of the Silicon Valley", Palo Alto is recognized worldwide as a leader in cutting-edge technological development. Palo Alto is unique among California cities, as it is a full-service municipality that owns and operates its gas, electric, water, sewer, refuse and storm drainage services for its residences.

Business Challenge

The City of Palo Alto historically developed its annual budget ($470 million for Fiscal Year 2015) for about 80 funds through a variety of manual processes and spreadsheets. Departments submitted their annual budget proposals to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on spreadsheets and then entered their proposals (numbers only) into SAP's budget planning module. All tasks including the General Fund Long Range Financial Forecast, labor cost modeling, financial reporting and the monitoring of the city's budget were all completed on spreadsheets. The manual workflow process was tedious, time consuming and resulted in multiple errors.

Solution

In October 2013, the City of Palo Alto sent out a Budget System RFP with six companies responding. Questica was chosen in June 2014 as the most technically qualified professional firm that submitted the most advantageous proposal and offered the lowest price for a vendor hosted solution. Implementation started mid-July and was completed by October in time for Palo Alto to develop its ten-year financial forecast in Questica Budget. By end of December, the workflow and budget submittal process was set up so that departments could submit budget requests in Questica in January 2015.

Palo Alto benefits from the accessibility and centralized database of Questica Budget. Questica Budget is accessible from any computer running Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome or Safari and can be installed locally on an organizations' servers or deployed in the cloud as the City of Palo Alto chose to do.

As a state-of-the-art web-based solution, Questica provides a familiar and intuitive spreadsheet like grid for data entry, minimizing the required training time, and allowing users to quickly get up to speed on the solution. Individual departments can access and track budgets in real-time, offering transparency and accountability to the budget process.

Population
66,000

Financial System
SAP

Business Need
The Office of Management and Budget was developing the City's annual budget of approximately $470 million for 80 funds through spreadsheets and manual processes.

The City of Palo Alto required an integrated budgeting system that would streamline budget development, forecasting, labor cost modeling, financial reporting and workflow management.

Questica Budget Capital & Operating
Questica Budget now provides the City of Palo Alto with a centralized budget, with the flexibility to manipulate data and to spend more time on analysis and higher value projects.

Business Benefits
- Time savings leading to staff retention
- Cost savings
- Configurable workflow
- Flexibility to manipulate data
- Secure web-based solution hosted by Questica
- Financial reporting and monitoring
- Online self-help tools

Want to know more about Questica Budget Suite? **Visit questica.com.**

Business Benefits

Questica Budget offers the City of Palo Alto the opportunity to develop and submit their budgets quickly and seamlessly. Additionally, budget changes after the adoption of the budget are submitted and approved in Questica. Through an overnight batch process with the City's financial system, approved budget modifications are synced up.

Time savings leading to staff retention

By using Questica Budget, Palo Alto staff saves time as there no longer are multiple data entries and spreadsheets being passed around. With a centralized budgeting system, there is only one point of data entry and seamless integration with Palo Alto's SAP financial system. With the time savings of implementing Questica Budget, Palo Alto staff can leave at 5:00 pm to go home and be with their families. Questica Budget simplifies the budgeting process so staff does not have to work long hours and burn out. Staff retention has increased with the implementation of Questica Budget. Being web-based, staff can also log in and make edits at night if needed during peak budgeting season. Staff are no longer tied to their desks and can work when needed from home.

Cost savings

The time savings with Questica Budget also allows staff more time to be spent on analysis and higher value projects. Thereby the implementation of Questica Budget saves Palo Alto more than $85,000 annually in productivity costs as the City can dedicate 0.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) Senior Management Analyst towards higher value tasks and Projects.

Configurable workflow

The City of Palo Alto's previous workflow process was that all departments submitted their proposed budgets to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and then entered their numbers into SAP. OMB then reconciled all the spreadsheets and tabulated the proposals to provide the decision makers with a packet of information for each budget and financial summary of each department. With Questica Budget, this old workflow process is automated, allowing the Senior Management Analyst in OMB to focus on performance measurement analysis and other value added program enhancements.

Flexibility to manipulate data

Questica Budget provides team members with the ability to set permissions on who can make changes to their budget at each stage of the budgeting process. Staff has the flexibility to duplicate, download and manipulate data. In addition, Questica Budget allows team members to view a record of all changes made, by whom they were made, and when they were made, using Questica Budget's Logging feature.

Any changes can be done easily throughout the year with the budget change request form, allowing money to be moved between GLs. Palo Alto staff can submit change requests and attach all necessary documentation in the notes section with Questica Budget's centralized system. This process leads to quicker approvals of funds.

Secure web-based solution hosted by Questica

As a web-based solution, Questica Budget allows Palo Alto staff to have access and full control over the day-to-day management of their budgets. Instead of emailing staff asking them to make small edits to the budget, this ownership enables staff to make changes to their budgets in a timely manner, and allows them to understand the impact of their budgets in a very real way.

Questica provides customers with the option of having the Questica Budget solution to be hosted by Questica. This was a key selling point for Palo Alto as they wanted the guarantee of having their budgets saved securely externally. By having Questica host the City's system, it allows for quicker recovery and flexibility in the event of earthquakes.

Financial Reporting and Monitoring

Questica also has a dashboard component that delivers the ability to provide an "at-a-glance" summary of critical data and other relevant information in a visually rich and interactive interface.

Former Director of Palo Alto's Office of Management and Budget, Walter Rossmann's favorite daily feature is Questica Dashboard as it allows him a quick glimpse through the day at the City's budget versus actual expenditures along with key performance measures and status of budget request reviews. Budgets can be monitored with dashboards and drill-down capability allowing Managers to control their budgets at a fund level, department level or cost center level. Dashboards can be developed for individual users, groups of users, departments, roles, or specific functional areas within Questica Budget.

Thanks to more efficient budgeting, Palo Alto is brilliant.

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Shelby County, Tennessee
Case Study

"We are very satisfied with the Questica Budget database and reporting solutions achieved to date and look forward to fully utilizing other features as we continue our implementation."

Audrey Stevenson-Tipton, CPA, Controller – Finance, Shelby County

About Shelby County

Shelby County is the largest county in Tennessee, both in terms of population and geography. Located in the Southwest corner of the state, Shelby's county seat is Memphis.

Business Challenge

Shelby County's budget process starts in late fall, and culminates with Commission approval in June. The County had been using the same budget process for many years and users were quite comfortable with it. However, it brought many challenges, including extensive data entry, ensuring accuracy of that data, a report system that was inflexible and complex, and difficulty in combing data with narrative text for program budgets.

A variety of Microsoft formats were used during all stages of budget preparation, including Microsoft's Access, Excel, Publisher and Word.

The database system was a critical component of the budgeting process. However, given its complexity and inflexibility, not many resources were familiar enough with it to make changes to the existing format. It was difficult to manipulate data to build scenarios or change modifiers, which resulted in a heavy reliance on the one to two resources with in-depth knowledge of the system. Reporting proved to be another challenge. Navigating the many existing queries and reports could be a source of confusion to users, while creating new reports presented issues in terms of time and design skills.

One of the biggest challenges in preparing the budget document is consolidating all information in as efficient a method as possible. A program budget is required for every single budget unit, including financial data and narrative text. Since no suitable product was available in their current library, Shelby County created the necessary documents by using a merge process in Word; however, this was a very cumbersome procedure that was not conducive to frequent changes.

Due to County protocol, the finance department was required to prepare the budget book twice — once in preparation for presentation to the County Commission, and again once the final budget had been approved. This proved quite a drain on resources, and required a tight turnaround.

Population

910,000

Financial System

MS Govern

Business Need

The County of Shelby is the largest County in the State of Tennessee. They needed a budgeting solution that was easy to use and more flexible than their existing system.

Questica Budget Capital & Operating

Questica Budget provides Shelby County with a simplified, user-friendly and fast method of budget preparation.

Business Benefits

- Flexible reporting capabilities
- Quick turnaround on Budget Book preparation
- User friendly
- Decentralization
- Supporting documentation
- Data integrity
- Multi-source report data
- Narrowed responsibility
- Service level measurement

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Solution

A new budgeting solution had been on the County's mind for some time, but due to budget limitations, they weren't sourcing anything. Based on a recommendation by MS Govern, they agreed to a demonstration of the Questica Budget Suite, and were pleased to learn that Questica Budget could resolve many of their budgeting challenges and would integrate easily with their financial system and other software.

Business Benefits

The implementation at Shelby County was managed in several stages to accommodate their day-to-day operations. The first phase involved setting up the database, preparing the Budget Book and provided several immediate benefits. Phase Two provided will bring the County further benefits such as greater controls over position based budgeting, multi-year budgeting, modeling scenarios for different expenditure levels, and security controls over budgets through all stages of the budget.

Flexible reporting capabilities

Questica Budget provides robust report capabilities, enabling the County the flexibility they require. The structure of the 80-plus standard reports and custom reports the County has had developed, are such that a report can be run in a variety of configurations — by Fund, by Division, by Department, etc., in summary or detail mode. By providing this flexibility, a variety of people can now be involved in the preparation and running of reports for the budget books.

Quick turnaround on Budget Book preparation

Questica Budget simplifies the process of preparing budget books. Now, not only can more people be involved in the process, but the time required to change reports is reduced significantly. This frees up time for the finance department to focus on other job duties such as reviewing the financial data rather than producing it.

User friendly

Questica Budget is designed to mimic the structure of many familiar software applications. It is intuitive and makes the time required to understand and use the system much shorter. This reduces the dependency on a few key personnel and decentralizes the budget process. Feedback from the staff at Shelby indicated that the new system was very user-friendly, and an improvement over the previous complicated paper process.

Decentralization

Decentralization is a definite advantage to the Questica Budget system. Shelby's users appreciate having independent access to their data and reports throughout the process and the ability to add notes/vendor names, etc. to their budgets. Department heads are now aware of their budgets, including changes and real-time actuals. The County plans to use a "zero-based" approach next year for certain accounts, something that was not feasible in the past.

Supporting documentation

Questica Budget provides the ability to attach supporting documentation and notes, providing historical data required to make business decisions, and enabling department staff to understand why certain decisions have been made, by whom and when. This removes the laborious task of searching back through paper documents and searching emails to find the details they need.

Data integrity

Questica Budget establishes a very structured approach to budget entry and tracking. Users can not inadvertently "flip a switch" and make an unknown mistake, as they could do in the previous system. This allows users to have greater confidence in the data, and by extension, in the reports they run.

Multi-source report data

Questica Budget reports are designed to combine data from different sources. Program budgets can be run for every single budget unit, combined on one page, capturing financial data along with associated narrative text such as service level measurement, scenario, historical and current budget information.

Narrowed responsibility

Having defined roles and responsibilities helps the County maintain accountability. The process of promoting and locking budgets as they progress up the approval chain, ensures control is maintained, and that only designated people can make changes to the data. It is clear at every stage what the responsibilities are for each individual.

Service level measurement

Performance measurement capabilities provide the County with a way to track and forecast an unlimited number of services per costing center. They can see and compare four years of data (current year plus previous three years), with an estimated and actual amount for each year. Full security controls ensure the integrity of the data. In addition, service level measurements are rolled forward to the next budget year, eliminating the need for data re-entry.

"The customer service provided by the Questica staff has been excellent – always very professional and pro-active in adapting their product to our needs."
Wanda Richards, Budget Controller, Shelby County

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Denver, Colorado
Case Study

> **"Questica's customer service and responsiveness are excellent"**
>
> Kelly Greunke, Manager of Budget Operations,
> The City and County of Denver , CO

About Denver

With impressive views of the Rocky Mountains, the City of Denver is known as "the mile high city" because it's exactly 5,280 feet above sea level, or one mile high. It's also one of the fastest growing major cities in the United States with a population of approximately 682,500.

The client, the City and County of Denver, develops and implements its budgets through their Budget and Management Office (BMO), which strives to manage a balanced budget and to create an environment of operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Business Challenge

Development of the base budgets begins in April with the previous year's budget and any pre-approved minor changes. Submissions for change requests for additional funding are then reviewed and approved changes applied to the budget. Budget hearings then take place in September, with final adoption in November. The budget process involves multiple stages as it goes through Department Managers, the BMO, Mayor's Office and Council.

Denver's budgeting system was old and no longer met the requirements of flexible and comprehensive budgeting. Forecasting wasn't available, scenarios were hard to create and time-consuming and the system was not robust. It also lacked analytics, which was key to balance responsible budgeting with the needs of a rapidly growing city.

Solution

The City and County of Denver issued an RFP for a budget reporting and analysis software solution, and in 2015 Questica Budget was selected and implemented.

While Questica Budget doesn't change what information is collected, it does change the way it's accomplished. The new system was aligned with Denver's existing budget process so the budget development process remained largely the same.

However, the process of submitting, reviewing, and approving the budget has been streamlined and the visibility of the data has been improved.

Population
682,500

Financial System
PeopleSoft/Workday

Business Need
The City and County of Denver needed a budgeting solution that was flexible, comprehensive and provided analytics.

Questica Budget Suite
Denver issued an RFP for a budget reporting and analysis solution and Questica was awarded the contract. Denver purchased Questica Budget Operating, Salaries, and Capital.

Business Benefits
- All budgeting in one system
- Integration to ERP and other systems
- Flexible and scalable
- Scenario based budgeting and forecasting
- Reporting and analytics
- Ease of use
- Online self-help tools

Want to know more about Questica Budget Suite? **Visit questica.com.**

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Business Benefits

All budgeting in one system

Questica Budget is a powerful application that fills the gap in the budgeting functionality financial systems offer. Denver now has the tools necessary to handle budget planning, tracking, and forecasting.

Managers can enter their own budget data and track budgets on their own, which frees up the BMO to spend more time on analysis and forecasting.

Eliminating the reliance on paper and spreadsheets, the City can easily maneuver through their budgets and maintain version control. Associated documentation can be attached to provide insight into the decisions made.

Budget reliability and accuracy can be more easily ensured and costly data entry errors prevented.

Integration to ERP and other systems

Through integration with the City's financial system, Questica Budget provides users with real-time budget actuals. Denver recently went through the process of changing financial systems from PeopleSoft to Workday. The new system works on a different account structure than the previous one, but with only minor modifications, Questica Budget's own account structure will remain the same, allowing the BMO to continue budgeting in the manner they require.

Flexible and scalable

Questica Budget was designed to be easily customized and modified to suit the specific needs of organizations like Denver. Users can drill down and roll up within their budgets as desired, and define their own custom business rules. As Denver continues to grow, we'll adapt to changes in structure and process.

Questica Budget is flexible enough to handle Denver's incremental budgeting method, as well as any number of methodologies they may move to in the future.

Scenario based budgeting and forecasting

With Questica Budget Salaries, the BMO is able to handle the complexities of position and personnel budget development. The ability to run "what-if" scenarios on costs such as salaries, furloughs, and other benefits has been very timely. Long-term forecasting is available for variables, regular increase, revenues and expenses, and other elements.

Reporting and analytics

Questica Budget provides a robust reporting solution built upon Microsoft SSRS, which allows the BMO and Managers to have reports designed and built to their own specifications.

Some of these reports include:
- Monthly revenue year-over-year
- Personnel comparison report
- Financial summary reports
- Summary report for all change request

The Schedule 100A General Fund Revenue Summary shows prior year actuals, future year budgets, and variances. Also calculates year-to-date actuals to the end of the prior month and can be used in Questica Budget dashboards.

Ease of use

Denver users have found the design of Questica Budget to be intuitive, easy to use and to maneuver about in. Base budget entry is easy and budgets can be rolled over to the next year, saving the time required to recreate it.

Online self-help tools

Denver has leveraged the Questica Academy, an online portal for all users to access training tools. The portal allows for onboarding new employees, or for quick reviews for the once-a-year budget preparation user. Working with Questica's Learning Development Team, Denver created additional training videos specific to their City, using their unique terminology and workflow.

Questica Academy also provides ongoing tips and tricks for users, and as Questica continues to invest in improvements and innovation, Denver can continue to get the most out of their investment.

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Denver is brilliant.

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