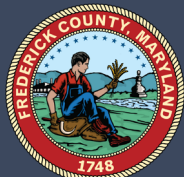


Frederick County's Budget Book Unification Project



Population:
271,717 (2020 Census)

Total Budgeted Revenues:
\$905 million

Solutions:
Questica Budget Book
powered by Caseware



Like many public sector budget departments, the team at Frederick County spent an inordinate amount of time compiling data across multiple platforms to prepare their adopted and capital budget books. We interviewed Budget Analyst III Tanya Kauffman, to learn more about how the county's disjointed systems impacted the budget department and the project they undertook to solve the problem.

Stitching together the Budget Book

We kicked-off the interview by asking Tanya how the County had prepared its budget book prior to the project, and specifically what problems they were looking to solve.

The Manual Process



"Budget Book pieces were coming from every direction, that's what we had to solve."

continued >

CHALLENGE

Frederick County spent countless hours gathering and reconciling pieces of their budget book across multiple applications. Every change or update would require a time-consuming review.

SOLUTION

Engaging the services of FHB, Microsoft and Adobe solutions were replaced with Caseware — integrated with Questica Budget. Changes applied to the budget are made in Questica and flow through to the book.

RESULTS

The County unified its budget book under a single comprehensive solution resulting in increased confidence in the data and an estimated 25% reduction in preparation time.



Frederick County

"I'm really pleased with F.H. Black's support its been great... It means a lot! In times of stress I know if I have trouble I can always reach out to my consultants... I think we would have really struggled implementing on our own."

Tanya Kauffman
Budget Analyst III Frederick County, MD

Replacing amalgamation with integration

Tired of the time-consuming relentless task of compiling data across multiple platforms, formatting the book, and constantly reviewing and reconciling changes; the County contracted F.H. Black & Company Incorporated to automate the process.

FHB recommended and helped implement Caseware as the right solution to fit the County's needs and requirements. Introducing Caseware's report writer, document management system, and integration capabilities with Questica streamlined the process immensely. Now data for Questica could be fed directly into Caseware and automatically populate the custom Operating and CIP budget book templates that FHB helped configure.

Game Changing Benefits

- The County now has the ability to store all of its data in a single location eliminating the "hunt for data".
- Preparation of the Operating and CIP budget books are almost completely automated saving countless hours in formatting tables, fonts, charts, margins, table of contents, etc.
- Mitigation of the risk of error and drastic reduction in the time spent reviewing and reconciling. Any changes to the budget made in Questica are communicated to Caseware and the book is automatically updated in all applicable locations.

"It's so nice to have that confidence in the data, more so than we have in the past...we put the information in once and it goes to all the different schedules," notes Tanya.

The Results

"I would estimate we have saved about 25% of the time it takes to prepare the budget book. It's tough to say, now that we have Caseware I feel like we add more to the budget book. Because it's more efficient we are doing more."



For over 25 years, F.H. Black & Company Incorporated has worked with finance and budget departments in government, education and corporations across North America to crush waste, & eliminate inefficiency.

Our mission is to ensure that our finance & budget departments do more with less, do it better than it was done before and do it in less time.



Book a meeting to discuss how we can automate your Budget Boook process.

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