

Vaughan, ON / Population 240,000

“TeamBudget Capital will provide us with a valuable tool to link corporate and departmental strategies with multi-year capital plans and our long-range financial planning model.”

Marjorie Johnson, Former Manager of Capital, City of Vaughan

Municipal Overview

The City of Vaughan, is located just north of Canada’s largest city, Toronto. Known as “The City Above Toronto”, Vaughan is situated in Canada’s most densely populated area, Southern Ontario, which is home to the majority of the country’s corporate, industrial and manufacturing headquarters.

Vaughan is one of Southern Ontario’s fastest growing cities, with a recent annual growth rate of approximately 9%.

Business Challenge

Like most municipalities, the City of Vaughan was faced with the challenge of having a very manual process in place for creating and submitting capital budgets to Council. Their previous database application wasn’t supported either internally or externally. Vaughan recognized a need for a capital budgeting solution that would marry its long range financial plan with a multi-year capital plan in addition to automating the process.

The budget cycle would start in July when notifications were sent out, and end with the budget due in September. The process of compiling and refining the budget information would take two months at which point it was ready for presentation to the Budget Committee.

Vaughan’s budget process incorporates both the requested budget (in its entirety), and the proposed budget (what they actually have the money to do). This approach allows the Budget Committee to understand the infrastructure gap, but unfortunately created challenges in tracking and reporting, and made changes to the budget difficult.

Solution

Vaughan began the process of sourcing and reviewing their options, including: spreadsheets that were linked and cumbersome; software solutions that were not web-based, therefore limiting; and trying to leverage an existing in-house accounting system, which didn’t meet their functional requirements.

After an extensive comparison of these options against defined functional and technical criteria in addition to talking with other municipalities who, faced with similar budgeting challenges, were also considering Questica’s TeamBudget Capital solution, it became clear that TeamBudget Capital was the only solution that would provide Vaughan with all of the functionality they required.

Overview:

Population

240,000

Financial System

JD Edwards

TeamBudget Capital

The City of Vaughan is located just north of Canada’s largest city, Toronto, and is situated in Canada’s most densely populated area.

Business Challenge

The City of Vaughan recognized a need for a capital budgeting solution that would marry its long range financial plan with a multi-year capital plan as well as decentralize and automate the compilation and change process.

Solution

TeamBudget Capital was the only solution that could provide Vaughan with all of the functionality they required.

Business Benefits

The City of Vaughan has seen a marked improvement to their budgeting process since implementing TeamBudget Capital, including:

- 80% reduction in budget preparation time
- Customized Reporting
- Dynamic Solution

For More Information

Further information on the TeamBudget Suite can be obtained at www.teambudget.com

Business Benefits

The City of Vaughan has seen a marked improvement to their budgeting cycle process since implementing Questica's TeamBudget Capital. Some of the specific business benefits include:

80% Reduction in Budget Preparation

Prior to using TeamBudget Capital solution, the City of Vaughan was spending up to 80% of their budget time manually compiling, linking and changing their budget information. This reduced the amount of time available to perform value added financial tasks.

With the implementation of TeamBudget Capital, the time required for compiling budgets has been reduced to 15-20%. This has freed up the remaining 80% of the time to analyze the information, and spend more time on funding forecasts and projections and long-range financial plans.

Customized Reporting

The ability to quickly create reports for the Senior Management Team and Budget Committee is key. As such, the City of Vaughan, along with Questica, developed a number of custom reports, some slight variations of existing ones and some completely new.

Vaughan is now able to react quickly to requests for specific information.

Dynamic Solution

The City of Vaughan benefits from the use of centralized real-time information.

The ability to make changes dynamically and immediately understand the impact of those changes is extremely important. In addition, each department has the ability to track real-time changes to their individual budgets through the various budget stages. This leads to fewer errors and mistakes made during the budgeting process.

For More Information

TeamBudget Suite is a secure web-based solution structured on a proven capital and operating budgeting model.

Working in conjunction with the public sector, **TeamBudget Capital** and **Operating** were designed to solve the cumbersome process of assembling, tracking, analyzing and reporting of capital and operating budgets.

Further information on the Questica's **TeamBudget Capital** product can be obtained at questica.com