

## Inquiry on budget software

Information compiled on May 11, 2009

**The Question:** Do you use specific software to formulate your budget? If so, what do you use, how long have you used it, and what rating would you give it (Fair, Good, Great).

**Asotin County PTBA** says...No

**Ben Franklin Transit** says...I use excel for Budget and development of our six year plan

**Clallam Transit** says...For budgeting we use Excel spreadsheets that are tailored exactly to our needs, and when finalized, are "uploaded" into the financial system. Since the emphasis each year changes, and we are so small (three managers + finance manager), a more elaborate system wouldn't be appropriate. We are very happy with our current approach.

**Columbia County Public Transportation** says... We do not use specific software to formulate our budget.

**Community Transit** says...We use PeopleSoft Enterprise Performance Management - Planning and Budgeting. We have been using it since 2006 for building our 2007 budget. For our purposes, I would give it a great rating, but that is mostly because of the integration with our PeopleSoft Financials and PeopleSoft Human Capital Management systems. I wouldn't necessarily recommend it for someone who did not have the other PeopleSoft systems.

**CUBS** says...Outside of the standard Excel spreadsheet, CUBS does not use a budget specific program.

**Everett Transit** says...Everett Transit uses Excel to pull together the budget. Our City Budget office uses an in-house program to budget pay-related expenses for us.

**Grant Transit** says...We have a contracted finance officer, and have no accounting software at all at GTA.

**Grays Harbor Transit** says...We have been using Application Software Products that is designed for municipalities for fourteen plus years and are in the process of looking at new software ourselves. I would be interested in hearing what other transit's are using.

**Intercity Transit** says...We use an access program that was written explicitly for us that interacts to some extent with FleetNet. We are currently transitioning from an Access 97 product to a

SQL/Access 2003 (soon to be Access 2007) product. It's a pain but gets us where we want to go.

**Island Transit** says...I developed a very complicated excel workbook that works great.

**Kitsap Transit** says...Kitsap Transit does not use software specifically designed for development of its budget.

**Link Transit** says...No special software for Link. I use Excel.

**Mason Transit** says...At Mason Transit we use an excel spreadsheet to formulate our budget. We start with very conservative revenue projections based on historical data and the current economy. Then we look at our current year's budget, actual expenses to date figures and calculate revised expense projections to end of current year based on what we've spent to date. In the comparison of our current year budget with the current year newly projected expenses, taking into consideration any changes that we are aware of such as step increases and projected cola for the new year, we determine our expenses for the new budget year ensuring that we do not exceed our available revenue. To date this system works for us, so I would say it is a good method of formulating our budget.

**Pacific Transit** says...We do not use any budget software.

**Pierce Transit** says...Pierce Transit uses customized Excel spreadsheets for budget requests and budget document preparation. For the control of the budget, we use the Financial Management System (FMS) from Mitchell Humphrey.

**Pullman Transit** says...Pullman Transit does not use software to formulate its budget. It uses Excel spreadsheets.

**Skagit Transit** says...We do not use any specific software to formulate our budget except excel worksheets.

**Spokane Transit** says...We do not use budget specific software. Our budget process is done through spreadsheets then uploaded into Fleet Net.

**Twin Transit** says....Twin Transit does not use any budgeting software.

**Valley Transit** says...I have an excel spreadsheet that I have used for years.