



Empowering Smarter Communities

ESCAPE FROM EXCEL

Financial Planning & Analysis with GovSense

Modern local governments demand a smarter approach to financial planning and analysis (FP&A).

Many finance departments are discovering that using Excel to handle the annual planning cycle, manage budget allocation, forecast income and expenditures and produce reports is creating all kinds of issues:

- Wasting weeks every year manually consolidating individual spreadsheets
- Difficulty modeling potential future scenarios
- Measuring actual spend against plan is a major chore
- Talented finance staff spending too much time on low-level, non-value-add activities
- Errors plaguing plans and budgets

Finance departments are spending huge amounts of time, energy and resources fighting against a tool that simply wasn't designed to do what they need it to do.

In Excel

In GovSense

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN In a shared ecosystem of individual, manual spreadsheets, it's all too easy for people to delete rows and cells and break formulas and links.	DEFEND AGAINST BREAKAGE With secure algorithms performing all the necessary calculations on your data, there's no risk of users breaking links or deleting vital formulas.
PAINFUL CONSOLIDATION Pulling data from multiple Excel spreadsheets is time-consuming and fraught with error. Getting non-Excel data into Excel takes hours of laboriously exporting data from your GL, payroll, purchasing or other systems and manually configuring it in Excel.	CONSOLIDATE DATA AUTOMATICALLY All departments can enter their budget and planning data into web-based sheets using the familiar Excel interface, and it consolidates them automatically. You instantly cut out weeks of work that you spend manually consolidating countless disconnected spreadsheets.
ONLY ACCESS TO A SNAPSHOT IN HISTORY Separate Excel spreadsheets can't deliver real-time data. They can only provide a snapshot of the numbers at a single point in time. You're always chasing after "the latest number."	REAL-TIME ANALYTICS AND REPORTING Use intuitive dashboards and configurable reporting to monitor data in real time. In the cloud, you always know you're seeing the latest version of the data.
ZERO COLLABORATION When you have a lot of people updating a disconnected Excel spreadsheet, it becomes difficult to tell where changes have been made, who made them and when. The audit trail goes cold fast — and that's not good for governance, efficiency or investigating the source of mistakes and inaccuracies.	SHARE WITH EVERYONE Everyone can access and update information from anywhere any time. Users download templates, enter data offline and upload their plans when complete. No more sending out spreadsheets for budget-holders to fill in, waiting for them to return, and then preparing for councilmembers.

Are you ready?

Switching systems is always a daunting task, but you may be surprised just how easy implementing a cloud solution is.

1. The software is already installed in the cloud, so there's no lengthy implementation process.
2. It's easy to configure it to match your organizational structure and ways of working.
3. You can import data automatically from your GL, payroll and other enterprise apps with little or no assistance from IT.
4. Cloud-based FP&A apps are easy and intuitive to use, giving users the choice of the familiar Excel interface or web-based planning.
5. Implementation can take as little as 3 weeks.