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**To:** [Council, City](#); [Council Agenda Email](#)  
**Cc:** [ORG - Clerk's Office](#); [ORG - Manager's Office](#); [Stump, Molly](#); [Numoto, Darren](#); [Nose, Kiely](#); [Lait, Jonathan](#)  
**Subject:** September 23 Council Agenda Consent Questions for Items 5 and 7  
**Date:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 2:54:32 PM

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### Council Question Response

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

On behalf of City Manager Ed Shikada, please find below the staff responses to inquiries made by Council Member Tanaka in regard to the September 23, 2019 Council Meeting agenda.

- Item 5: Williamson Act Contract Renewal (2019)
- Item 7: Approve a 5 Year Extension to Questica Inc for Budget Software

#### **Item 5: Williamson Act Contract Renewal (2019)**

**1. How can the City ensure the Williamson Act will work alongside good local planning and not get rid of it altogether?**

The California Land Conservation Act (1965), also referred to as the Williamson Act, provides a contractual framework for a private property owner and the City to restrict the use of land for agricultural or open space purposes in exchanged for reduced property tax assessments. The Williamson Act provides a tool to jurisdictions that promotes conservation and protects open space from the pressures of land use development. In this regard, the Act works in concert with local planning objectives. The City's comprehensive plan includes a policy that encourages the management of private open space areas (Policy N-1.3) and a program to maintain Williamson Act contracts within the City (Program N1.3.1). These policy statements reflect the City's interest in preserving qualifying lands and the value placed on aesthetic, habitat, water quality and agricultural interests. The City's long term planning goals are further reinforced and supported by the subject contracts and do not put at risk other land use planning objectives. More information on the Williamson Act is available online:  
[https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/wa/Pages/wa\\_overview.aspx](https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/wa/Pages/wa_overview.aspx).

#### **Item 7: Approve a 5 Year Extension to Questica Inc for Budget Software**

**1. What does the 1.03 multiplier represent?**

The 1.03 multiplier represents the 3% annual increase in contract cost, intended to reflect standard, annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases.

**2. Will staff likely do a 5 year contract extension after another 5 years? What would it take for Questica to no longer be a viable option for a contract extension?**

Staff does not currently anticipate doing another 5-year contract extension after the next 5-year term is up. Core software products such as this are impacted by resource availability as well as the City's ecosystem of technology solutions and their interdependencies; for example, the current plan to upgrade the City's

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. For Questica to no longer be a viable option it would need to no longer address the City's business needs. However, through the next five years, staff anticipates continuing to survey the landscape for budget software solutions.

Thank you.



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