**Maintenance Plan:**

A maintenance plan that tracks the required expenses of maintaining our product over the first year after deployment. The maintenance plan will help us determine where money needs to be allocated. Some of the major factors are as follows:

* An important aspect of maintaining our budget tracker is ensuring our domain is continuously being paid every month to assure our users understand we are reliable. This is important to maintenance because we want to maintain credibility with our users. Domain payments are required to keep our application up and running to the public since our budget tracker is entirely software based.
* Our group will base our expenses on the 50-25-21-4 rule, which describes the percentage cost of perfective, adaptive, preventative and corrective maintenence, respectively.
* Using this model, we predict that the perfective style maintenance performed by our developers will be the most expensive aspect over the next year. Some ideas we plan on implementing include more graphs to depict niche data, personalized insight comments to users about their spending, area graphs to better represent transaction data, and expanding our product to other platforms such as a mobile app. If we implement these software ideas our users are more likely to be satisfied with our product; therefore, perfective maintenance is essential to maintaining our user base.
* The next largest contributor to maintenance cost is any adaptive changes that we make to our software. These changes come about due to any predicted changes associated with development. If at any time our software becomes incompatible with a new browser release, then we will have to perform adaptive maintenance on our product. Also, if our product expands to new platforms then we must ensure that our product adheres to any new hardware or software changes as well as adhering to any laws that may differ between platforms.
* The second smallest contributor is corrective maintenance, and this is due to this type of maintenance being irrelevant if we perform rigorous adaptive checks. However, there will inevitably be bugs that come into light as more users interact with our UI. As users report these bugs, we will have to perform corrective maintenance to ensure our product runs smoothly.
* Finally, the smallest contributor to software maintenance is corrective maintenance because it is often pushed to the back burner. Any rework of documentation, optimization or reconstruction of code is considered corrective, and while this is not a major cost factor, adaptive maintenance must be done, nonetheless.

When it comes to maintaining our software for the next year, we cannot avoid hiring a few software developers to handle the four types of maintenance our group predicts to encounter. Our computer application is UI based, so maintaining a reliable standing with our consumers is a number one priority after our deployment plan commences.

The cost to maintain this project includes the following:

* To buy the domain a recurring fee of $15 would be charged per month for about 3 years.
* To hire 2 software developers to perform perfective, adaptive, preventative and corrective maintenance would be around $50,000 per year per developer. Bringing the cost of hiring developers to $100,000.
* The cost of adding our product to other platforms varies depending on the specific platform. It is $99 per year for apple app store, $25 one-time fee for the google play store and zero for platforms like the xbox and playstation app stores.

This brings our total cost for maintenance over one year to $100,304.