

WHO WE ARE



PARTICIPATORY
BUDGETING PROJECT

We are a nonprofit organization that empowers people to decide together how to spend public money. We create and support participatory budgeting processes that build stronger communities, make public budgets more equitable and effective, and deepen democracy.

We have engaged more than 200,000 PEOPLE in 17 CITIES to decide how to spend over \$170 MILLION.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING (PB) is a better way to manage public money. It is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. PB gives ordinary people real decision-making power over real money.

WHAT WE DO



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & TRAINING

We help governments, institutions, and organizations implement participatory budgeting processes and campaigns.



PARTICIPATION LAB

We research and develop new tools and practices to make participatory budgeting and democracy work better.



NETWORK BUILDING

We bring together diverse practitioners and community organizers to help participatory budgeting grow.

WHERE WE HAVE WORKED

City / Level of PB

- Boston, MA / City*
- Buffalo, NY / City*
- Cambridge, MA / City*
- Chicago, IL / District + School*
- Dieppe, NB / City*
- Greensboro, NC / City*
- Hamilton, ON / District*
- Hartford, CT / City*
- Long Beach, CA / District*
- New York City, NY / City + College*
- Sacramento, CA / School*
- San Francisco, CA / District*
- San Jose, CA / School*
- Seattle, WA / City*
- St. Louis, MO / District*
- Toronto, ON / Public Housing*
- Vallejo, CA / City*

HOW TO CONTACT US

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347-652-1478

www.participatorybudgeting.org

Facebook/ParticipatoryBudgeting
@PBProject

EAST COAST | *Brooklyn*

SOUTH | *Greensboro*

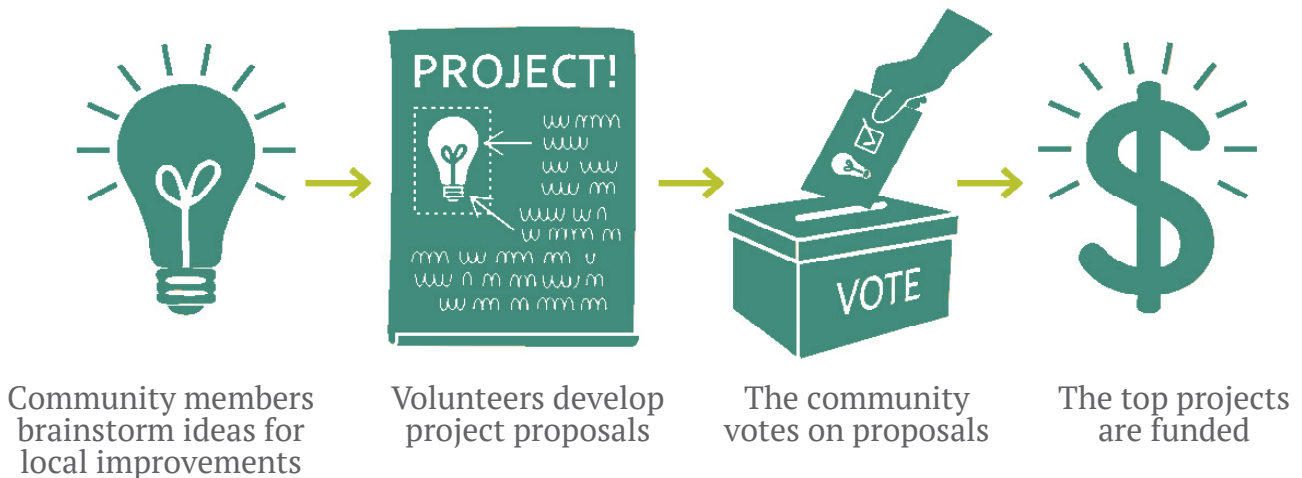
MIDWEST | *Chicago*

WEST COAST | *Oakland*

HOW PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING WORKS

Communities make budget decisions through an annual cycle of meetings and voting.

Each community designs their own PB process but most experiences follow a similar basic process:



After funding, the process starts again, and PB becomes part of the way government works.

HISTORY OF PB

The Brazilian City of Porto Alegre started the first full participatory budgeting process in 1989. Since then, **PB has spread to over 3,000 cities around the world**, and has been used in counties, states, housing authorities, schools, universities, and other institutions.

We launched the first PB process in the US in 2009.

The White House has endorsed PB as a best practice in civic engagement.

OUTCOMES OF PB

- More civic engagement
- Broader political participation
- New community leaders and more active citizens
- Stronger relationships between government, organizations, and residents
- Fairer and more effective spending

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