About PBP

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

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.

How Participatory Budgeting Works

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

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

- Community members brainstorm ideas for local improvements
- Volunteers develop project proposals
- The community votes on proposals
- The top projects are funded

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

We work with partners to grow and deepen participatory budgeting across North America. We provide technical assistance and training, develop tools and resources, and build networks among staff, organizers, researchers, and other PB leaders.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & TRAINING
We help governments, institutions, and organizations to implement PB processes and campaigns.

PARTICIPATION LAB
We research and develop new tools and practices to make PB and democracy work better.

NETWORK BUILDING
We bring together diverse practitioners and community organizers to help PB grow.

RECOGNIZED BY

2013: White House Open Government National Action Plan, which promotes PB as a best practice for civic engagement

2014: Brown Democracy Medal from Penn State University, for the top practical innovation advancing democracy around the world

2015: Harvard Innovations in American Government Award for innovation in public engagement

FEATURED IN

npr  CBC  CBS  PBS  UNIVISION  FOX  The New York Times
Where we are working

Since launching the first participatory budgeting process in the US in Chicago in 2009, we have led the growth of PB across the US and Canada. This map shows where we worked in 2015-16 to transform the way people and government practice democracy.

**Supporting Implementation of PB**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Level of PB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
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<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
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<td>Cambridge, MA</td>
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<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>District + School</td>
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<td>Dieppe, NB</td>
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**Supporting Organizing for PB**

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<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
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<td>Portland, OR</td>
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<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
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**Inspiring PB**

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<td>Tofino, BC</td>
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<td>Toronto, ON</td>
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We are using SMS and mapping tools to engage people in the city’s second year of PB.
New York City, NY
With our support, 67,000 residents voted on how to spend $37 million in 2016. We also worked to expand PB processes to public housing and schools.

Buffalo, NY
We supported a successful grassroots campaign to win city approval for a pilot PB process.

Chicago, IL
Sullivan High School students did PB for $25,000 of their school’s budget. We developed a curriculum for other schools based on this process.

Greensboro, NC
After supporting a successful organizing campaign, we fully implemented the first municipal PB process in the South.

Seattle, WA
We assisted the City of Seattle in implementing its first PB process. Youth 11-25 years old will decide how to spend $700K.

Dieppe, NB
We helped implement a model for small-scale PB process in a city of 23,000 people.
Impacts

We build engaged and connected communities that produce more responsive and equitable budgets. Each year we expand and deepen the impacts of participatory budgeting on individuals, communities, and governments.

Dollars allocated through PB

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Dollars Allocated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$1.3m</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$2.3m</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$56.8m</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$97.5m</td>
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Youth Leaders

16-year old Stephen LaFume is a leader in Youth Lead the Change, Boston’s PB process, helping decide how to spend $1 million in youth-directed projects.

“My experience in PB was different because it was about [making] more direct change where everything counts.”

Learning democracy

NYC High School social studies teacher Steven Serling got his East Harlem students involved in PBNYC. They worked closely with their Council Member’s office as volunteer budget delegates, organized to get out the vote, and learned the ways that participation makes democracy work.

Projects funded by PB

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Projects Funded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>185</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>316</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>500</td>
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Community Leaders

Joni Ricks-Oddie & Keith Oddie are Steering Committee members and budget delegates for PB Long Beach.

“It really hit home...that anyone can submit an idea no matter how large or small...it can be developed into a real fundable proposal, and potentially win! This PB process really encapsulated the idea that anyone, with the help of community and the strong support of city officials, can achieve anything in our city.”

Innovative Projects

A PB Cambridge winning project meets two community needs: hunger and food waste. A new freezer van will pick up excess prepared foods from businesses and deliver them to thousands of residents—that’s 7,000 meals daily!

People engaged through PB

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>1650</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>9800</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>59,000</td>
<td>132,000</td>
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Team

It takes people-power to make public budgets more fair, transparent, and responsive. Our budget has grown nearly 10x since 2011 and our staff has grown to 15. With our board and advisory board and hundreds of volunteers around the US and Canada, we’re rebuilding democratic participation and restoring community trust.

NEW YORK
Josh Lerner, Executive Director
Jennifer Godzeno, Deputy Director
David Beasley, Communications Director
Melissa Appleton, Project Manager
Saran Kaba, Operations Manager
Lize Mogel, Development Manager
Isabel Luciano, Program Associate
Rossanna Mercedes, Volunteer Coordinator
Lila Barrett, Development and Operations Assistant

OAKLAND
Ginny Browne, Project Manager
Aseem Mulji, Data & Technology Manager
Solaire Spellen, Program Associate

CHICAGO
Maria Hadden, Project Manager

GREENSBORO
Ranata Reeder, Community Engagement Coordinator
Erica Lindenberg, Project Assistant
Finances

2015 Revenues

- Foundation Grants: $570,000 (56%)
- Contracts: $390,000 (37%)
- Individual Giving: $40,000 (5%)
- Network Building: $14,000 (1%)
- Events & Other: $25,000 (2%)

Total Budget: $1,025,000

2015 Expenses

- Technical Assistance & Training: $560,000 (55%)
- Participation Lab: $75,000 (7%)
- Network Building: $14,000 (1%)
- Management & General: $286,000 (28%)
- Development: $90,000 (9%)

Total Budget: $1,025,000
Supporters

Foundations
Democracy Fund
The California Endowment
The James Irvine Foundation
New York Women’s Foundation
Rockefeller Foundation*
Rita Allen Foundation
The JPB Foundation
New York Foundation
Robert R. McCormick Foundation*
Fund for Democratic Communities
Crown Family Philanthropies*
Lilly Auchincloss Foundation
Scherman Foundation

* = support received through partner organization

Government
City of Greensboro
City of Boston
City of Cambridge
City of Seattle
City of Vallejo
City of Dieppe

New York City Council
New York City Council Member Ben Kallos
New York City Council Member Brad Lander
New York City Council Member Stephen Levin
New York City Council Member Mark Levine
New York City Council Member Carlos Menchaca
New York City Council Member Donovan Richards
New York City Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez
New York City Council Member Helen Rosenthal
New York City Council Member Ritchie Torres

Individuals
$100-$500
Aaron Tanaka
Adrian Madaro
Alex Sparrow
Alison Fairbrother
Allan and Kirts
Schindle
Allison Rogers
Alyzza May
Amanda Roman
Andrew Duckett
Andrew King
Andrew Starr-
Bochicchio
Anne Guiney
Ari Gershman
Ashish Goel
Ayse Yonder
Barbara Holzman
Barbara Pecci
Barbara Turk
Benjamin Goldfrank
Benjamin Haas
Benjamin Solotaire
Brandon Nelson
Brenda and Ron
Appleton
Carolina Suazo
Caron Atlas
Catherine Herdlick
Cheyenna Weber
Chris Osgood
Christopher Worrall
Clara Bois
Danna Lennon-
Thomas
Dave Graham-Squire
David Moore
David Pechefsky
David Schecter
David Woods
Deanna Bitetti
Deborah Fagone
Dmitriy Goykhman
Donata Secondo
Edward Bishop
Edward Woodhouse
Elie Francis
Elizabeth Fraser
Eric Howell
Erica Quigley
Evan Turell
Gary Lindenberg
Gretta Mogel
Hala Audi
Helen Holtz
Ilana Berger
Isaac Jabola-Carolus
Janet Youngblood
Jay Sterrenberg
JD Miller
Jean D. Sightler
Jennifer Godzeno
Jennifer Lav
Jesse Siegel
Joan Miniery
John De La Torre
John Raskin
Jonathan Busky
Jonathan Field
Joni Kletter
Joseph Holtz
Josh Silverstein
Julia Foulkes
Juscha Robinson
Karilyn Crockett
Kelly Johnson
Kenneth Hite Jr
Kenneth Swaner
Keri Tyler
Lacey Tauber
Leah Loftis
Leslie Palmer
Lili Davis
Linda Schmidt
Lorene Jabola
Lynne Fifield
Madden Foreman
Maddhavi Pottabathula
Margaret Seip
Mark Laursen
Martha Brown
Mathias Black
Matt Harvey
Matthew Green
Megan Wade
Melody Allen
Meredith Phillips
Almeida
Michael Epstein
Michael Isaac
Miranda Stephenson
Molly Biklen
Natalia Vera
Nikita Airen
Patricia Monger
Peter Steinberg
Rachael Fass
Rachel Tiven
Raheem Baraka
Raun Rasmussen
Renate Lunn
Richard Kasdan
Richard Koehl
Robert Newman
Ron Haydak
Samuel Carter
Sara Manaugh
Sarah Williams
Sineryl Durrant
Sonai Patel
Sophie Lynford
Stefanie Clark
Stephanie Lane Pavon
Steve Larosiliere
Susan Dell
Will Friedaman
Yin Yin Matisz
Anonymous
Institutions

Harvard University — Ash Center for Democratic Governance
Hartford 2000
Swedish Association of Local Authorities
Davenport Institute for Public Engagement and Civic Leadership
Clean Air Coalition

Individuals

Up to $100

Adrian Wright-FitzGerald
Albert Wang
Aldo Cano Trevino
Alea Gage and David Cushman
Amanda Kathryn Roman
Amanda Stapelford
Amy Miller
Anita Reta
Aseem Mulji
Ashli Polanco
Ayanna McLeod
Behrang Foroughi
Biola Jeje
Brooke Woodson
Carolyn Edwards
Carrie Eisert
Chad Clements
Christian Onuoha
Christine Petro
Christopher Nuttle
Cleopatra Mcgovern
Cynthia Hooper

Cynthia Williams
Danielle Olson
David Lerner
David Plotke
David Sprintzen
Deborah Gambs
Dennis Kittelson
Dianne Morad
Douglas Hausladen
Douglas Schneider
Elfriede Wedam
Elisha Hylton
Elizabeth Wolfe
Ella Tamufor
Ellen Taylor
Eric Leslie
Erin Heaney
Eve Baron
Francesco Tena
Gabriel Hetland
Gabriel Sayegh
Ginny Christensen
Grace Goodman
Hannah Freedman
Henry Euler

Institutions

Hessiel Polanco
Ilya Shlyakhter
Jaime Cho
James Rayles
Jan O’Brien
Jane Ferrier
Janice Williams
Jason Besse
Jeffrey Dobrinsky
Jennifer Witte
Jerry Silver
Jez Hall
Joan and Iris Starr
John Steiner
Jordan Reisner
Jose Ramon Marti
Karen Kubey
Karen Sims
Kate LeBlanc
Kathleen Campbell
Kathryn Peters
Katie King
Kerri Sands
Kristie McCoy
Kristin Eberhard

Individuals

Aaron Naparstek
Alina Chatterjee
Alysia Green
Anar Badalov
Anne Schaeffer
Brian Wampler
Celina Su
Chris Wilson
Daniel Altschuler
David Isberg
Elizabeth Herbert
Erik Olin Wright
Erinellene Sanborn
Gary Wilson
George Choriatis
Jeremy Wells
Joe Moore
John Appel

Nathanael Shea
Naval Khattri
Norma Rantsi
Kemi Ilesanmi
Pamela Leins
Patricia McMahon
Paul Maiullari
Paul Sorrentino
Pemberton Brown
Peter Missouri
Peter Piazza
Phil Getzen
Porsha McConnell
Ralph Brooks
Randy Chatterjee
Rani Shankar
Robert Jay Press
Roshan Bliss
Roxanne Longoria
Ryan Price
Sarah Berman
Selena Lilly
Shari Davis
Sharon Robinson
Shelee Loughmiller

Shereen Ilahi
Skye Robinson
Sofia Wolman
Sonia Chang-Diaz
Susan Beaudry
Susan Cecil
Tameko Goodwin
Thaddeus Miles
Thomas Barnes
Toby Sheppard Bloch
Toluwalope Cole
Tracyle Hale
Tracy Anderson
Truls W. Gedde-Dahl
Tyrone Jack
Valyrie Laedlein
Vanessa Guerrero
Virginia Brown
Wendy Yun
Yahaira Graxirena
Yinglee Tseng
Anonymous

www.participatorybudgeting.org

Participatory Budgeting Project