

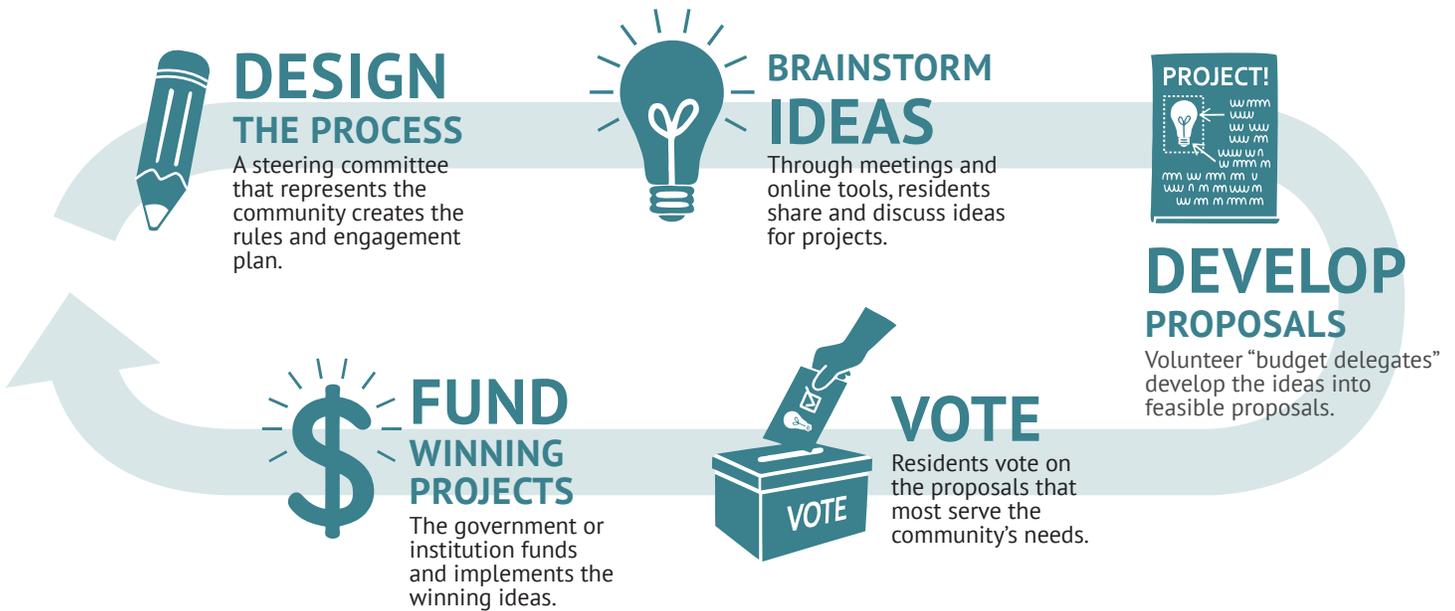


## What Is Participatory Budgeting?

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. It gives people real power over real money.

### How PB Works

PB is an annual cycle of engagement that is integrated into a regular budgeting process. A typical PB process follows these steps:



### PB’s Impacts

- Increased civic engagement
- Stronger and more collaborative relationships between residents, government, and community organizations
- More inclusive political participation, especially by historically marginalized communities
- New community leaders
- More equitable and effective public spending

### Where PB is Happening

- New York City, where over 100,000 people decide how to spend \$40 million
- Oakland, CA, for federal community development funds
- Phoenix, AZ, in public high schools
- Vallejo, CA, for proceeds from a city sales tax
- Boston, MA, where young people decide how to spend \$1 million each year
- Over 3,000 cities around the world.



# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING PROJECT

The **Participatory Budgeting Project (PBP)** empowers people to decide together how to spend public money. We create and support participatory budgeting (PB) processes that deepen democracy, build stronger communities, and make public budgets more equitable and effective.

PBP is the lead organization advancing participatory budgeting across the United States and Canada. We have empowered more than 400,000 people to directly decide how to spend \$300 million in public funds in 29 cities.

## Our Work

### Technical Assistance



We provide direct support to PB processes in order to grow and improve the practice of PB. This includes providing trainings, materials, coaching, and other expertise to governments, organizations, and residents, so that they can implement high-impact civic engagement processes that advance equity and democracy.

### Participation Lab



We develop and test innovative strategies and design solutions that make PB easier and more effective, and that deepen, measure, and communicate its impacts. This work includes developing civic engagement tools such as trainings, guides, videos, and technology to address common challenges.

### Network Building



We build relationships with government officials and staff, organizers and researchers to increase demand and support for PB. This work includes managing a PB Network of practitioners, holding international conferences, and introducing PB to new types of budgets.

## Clients

Our clients include:

- New York City Council
- City of Oakland
- City of Seattle
- City of Boston
- City of Greensboro
- City of Cambridge
- City of Minneapolis
- City of Vallejo
- City of Toronto, ON
- City of Dieppe, NB
- City of Victoria, BC
- Phoenix Union High School District
- New York State Department of Education
- And many others

## Endorsements

Our work has been recognized as a best practice in civic engagement by:

- The US Conference of Mayors
- National League of Cities
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- The Obama White House
- Harvard University- Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation
- 100 Resilient Cities
- The Movement for Black Lives
- The Aspen Institute
- PolicyLink
- Local Progress

## Contact

PBP has offices in NYC & Oakland. Contact us to learn more about starting PB in your community.

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@PBProject

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