



2020

ANNUAL

REPORT



2020 Highlights

WE CREATED AND CELEBRATED COLLECTIVE VISIONS FOR JUSTICE

Through the end of summer and into the fall, PBP hosted a series of six public webinars called Visions for Justice with over 250 attendees and over 1,750 views on how participatory practices bring us closer to radically different and just realities.

WE INVITED PARTNERS TO JOIN DEMOCRACY BEYOND ELECTIONS

We launched democracybeyondelections.org, a new home for the Democracy Beyond Elections — our collaborative campaign for community-led decision making power that is equitable, accessible, and significant. The new resource helped us recruit new coalition partners and spread awareness about the power and potential of participatory democracy.

WE JOINED PARTNERS IN DEMANDING PROTECTION & JUSTICE FOR BLACK LIVES

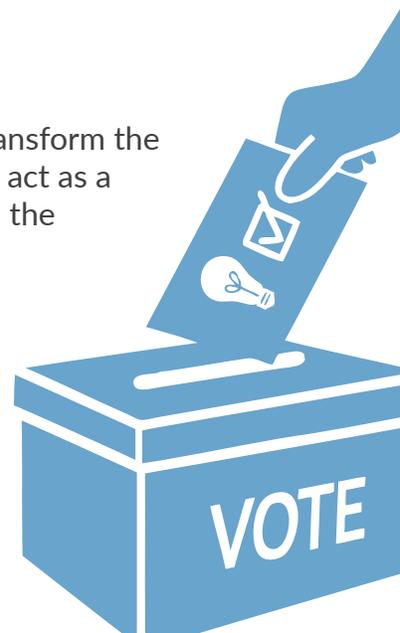
We mourned the lives of Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Sean Reed and other countless Black lives and stood alongside our partners demanding real community control. This year, we encouraged our community to lift up local and national calls-to-actions, while doubling down on our own commitment to support partners demanding real power over public budgets. PBP is currently supporting over 20 cities in their Divest/Invest efforts.

OUR PARTNERS IN PHOENIX ARE REIMAGINING SCHOOL SAFETY

Phoenix Union High School District (PXU) committed to community driven solutions to school safety. In July 2020 that announced that they would not renew their contract with the City of Phoenix for School Resource Officers (school police) and would instead reinvest funds to launch the largest school PB initiative in the country.

OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SHARI DAVIS, GAVE A MAINSTAGE TED TALK!

PBP's Executive Director, Shari Davis, delivered a TED Talk on how PB can transform the relationship between governments and the communities that they serve, and act as a roadmap for reimagining what true participatory democracy could look like in the U.S. The video garnered over 1.5 million views and offers an incisive critique of our current political processes, and a path towards collective reimagining of those systems.



Note from our Executive Director



To our community,

I didn't know what our team would be up against when this year started, but we knew investing in radical imagination would help us get to what's next.

As I reflect on this past year, I recognize that our team, our broader community, and the entire country has held so much. It doesn't go unnoticed.

While we honor the grief felt by thousands of people impacted by the COVID pandemic, we also hold space for the resilience and indispensable grit from communities across the country demanding new models of safety.

This past year has shown us that we don't have to limit our imagination to what we have experienced – and that dreaming big and bold is necessary to build an inclusive democracy now that extends into the future.

Our team brings a revived sense of humility, focus, and commitment into 2021 that we are excited to share with you. I'm proud to invite you on a journey of what we accomplished this past year, alongside so many of our incredible partners and into where we can go next together.

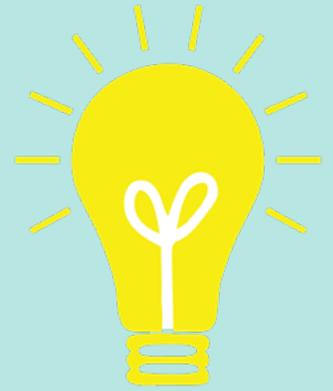
Elevate,

Shari



What's next

As we look ahead, we are excited to co-build the next iteration of our work. Here's how we are investing in what's next with our partners:



New strategic vision with an equity lens



New models of shared leadership



Participatory pilots that will transform how governments work



More PB and community decision-making at the local, state, and federal level



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

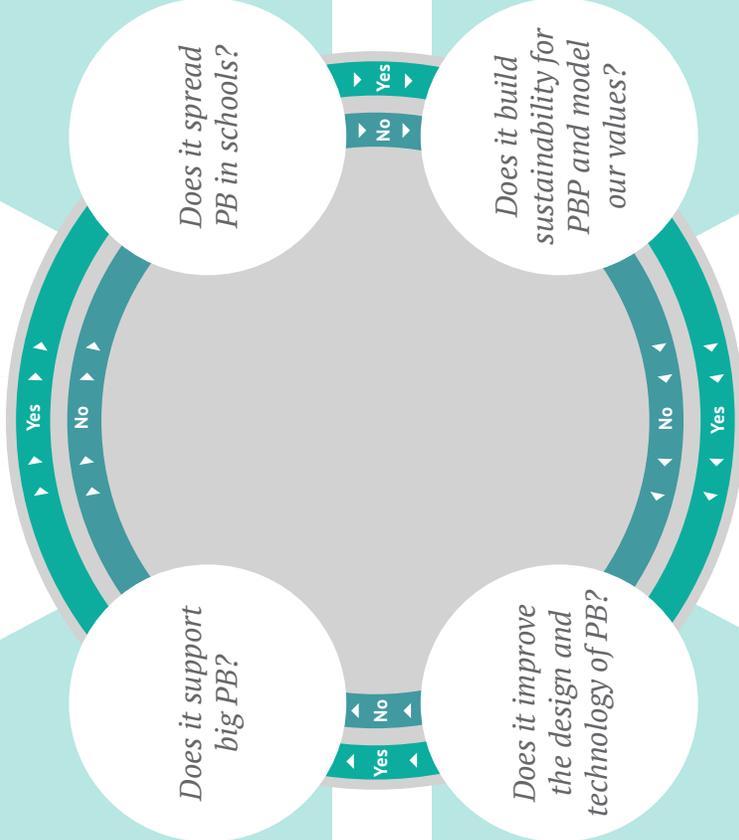
Direction 1

Expand public power over larger budgets and decisions, to increase civic engagement and equity.

Success is:

- New and existing PB processes increase the amount of money and issues that residents can decide.
- Large-scale equitable PB processes raise the bar for civic engagement, inspiring governments to open up bigger decisions to residents.
- More prominent officials, organizations, and funders focused on equity and democracy support PB and win commitments for participatory democracy programs.

When you're thinking of a new potential project, idea or inquiry - how do you know if it supports BBP's strategic directions? The chart below has reflection questions you can use to help decide whether it fulfill the goal/s of one or more strategic directions.



Direction 2

Spread participatory budgeting in schools, to inspire a new generation of leaders to grow participatory and equitable democracy in the long term.

Success is:

- High-profile school PB programs are successful and equitable models that inspire similar processes elsewhere.
- More school district leaders learn about, become interested in, and launch PB processes.

Direction 3

Improve the design and technology of participatory budgeting and democracy, to enable equitable and empowering civic engagement to spread more widely.

Success is:

- Government officials and staff can run more equitable, empowering, and streamlined civic engagement processes.
- BBP's technical assistance and resources deliver more value to government officials, staff, advocates, and community members.

Direction 4

Build a sustainable organization that models our values, to attract and retain amazing staff and board members.

Success is:

- We have a healthy reserve that supports financial stability.
- We regularly improve staff compensation, benefits, and professional development.
- We sustain a supportive organizational culture and management that reflect our values.

Instructions:

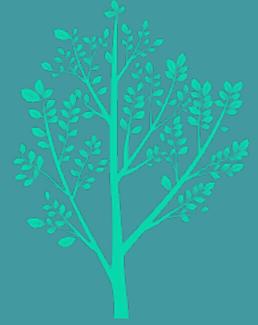
Start on whichever question you would like, looking at the measures for success. Move around the circle to each direction to see whether it potentially supports more than one strategic direction.

Key - # of times you answered Yes:

- 0 This might not be the project for BBP.
- 1-2 This is a viable thing.
- 3 We should definitely pursue this.
- 4 This is going to revolutionize PB!



Thank you to our partners



This work is made possible through deep and meaningful partnerships from organizations and individuals from around the country. Thank you for dreaming, ideating, and building together.

Partners

Arts & Democracy
Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams
Building Healthy Communities Merced
Building Stronger Families Providence
Center for Court Innovation
Center for Popular Democracy
Center for the Future of Arizona
City of Eau Claire WI
City of Vancouver BC
Civic Engagement Commission PB Advisory Committee
Civic Hall
Coro NY Leadership Center
Creative New Jersey
Drug Policy Alliance
Generation Citizen
Ideas42 NYC Behavioral Design Center
Jefferson Center
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice
Kounkuey Design Initiative
Long Beach Forward
New Jersey Policy Perspective
New York City Council
New York City Department of Education Civics for All
New York State Education Department Office of Accountability
NYC Civic Engagement Commission
NYC Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Neighborhood-Stat
PB NYC Citywide Committee
People's Action Institute
Sustainable Jersey
TakeRoot Justice
The Nonprofit Partnership
Theatre of the Oppressed NYC

Funders

American Council of Learned Societies
Brooklyn Community Foundation
Butler Family Fund
Democracy Fund
Ford Foundation
Mertz Gilmore Foundation
New York Community Trust
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society
TD Charitable Foundation
The California Endowment
The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
The James Irvine Foundation
The JPB Foundation

Advisory Board Committee

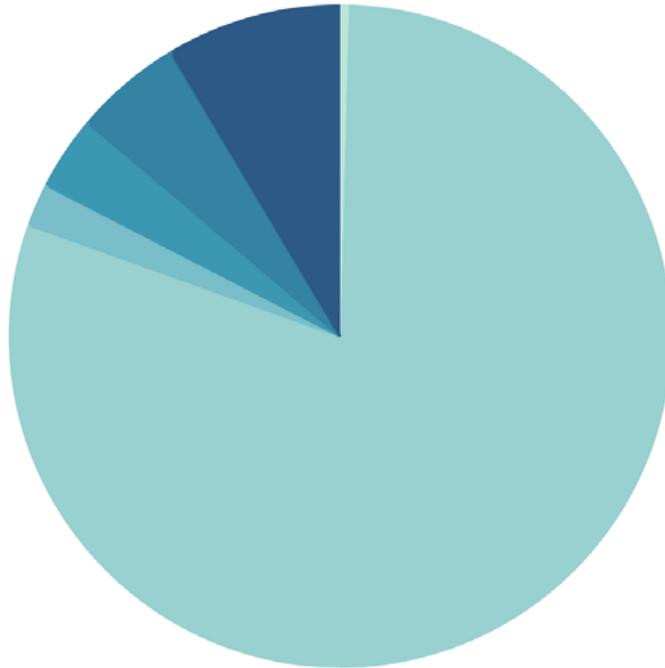
David Beasley | Auburn Seminar
Alina Chatterjee | Scadding Court Community Centre
Jez Hall | PB Partners, UK
Alexander Kolokotronis | Yale University
Stephen Lafume | City of Boston
Matt Leighninger | Public Agenda
Aseem Mulji | University of California Berkeley
Whitney Quesenbery | Center for Civic Design
Erin Sanborn
Celina Su | City University of New York

Financials

January 1, 2020-December 31, 2020 (unaudited financials)



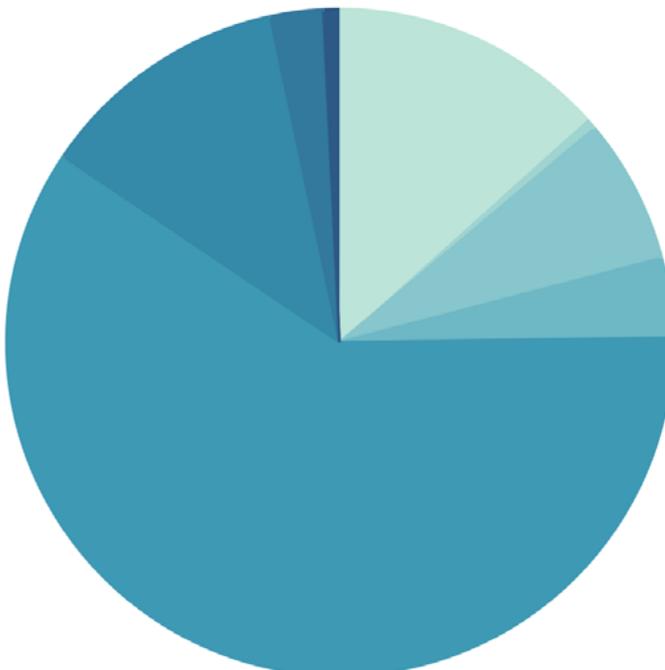
Income



Income

- Corporate Contributions
- Foundation Contributions
- Individual Contributions
- Non-Profit Contribution
- Other Income
- Program Service Fees
- Special Events
- State and Local Contracts

Expenses



Expenses

- Contract Services
- Insurance
- Occupancy
- Office Expenses
- Other Expenses
- Payroll Expense
- Payroll Taxes & Benefits
- Professional Services
- Staff Development
- Travel and Meetings

Total Expenses: \$ 1,170,962.16

