

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING: YOUTH VOICE, YOUTH CHOICE

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which Seattle youth will decide how to spend \$700,000 of the City's budget.

PB is used in cities around the country including Chicago, Boston, New York, and San Francisco. In Seattle, youth will come together to brainstorm ideas, turn those ideas into concrete project proposals, and vote on which of those projects to fund. The City will then implement the winning projects.

In 2016, the City budget dedicates \$700,000 to PB. The process started in December 2015 and goes through June 2016. The process is guided by a steering committee which is comprised of youth and adults from community-based organizations around Seattle.



How does it work?

January-February



Collect

Community Members brainstorm ideas for potential projects

March-April



Develop

Youth volunteers develop ideas into concrete proposals

May



Vote

Youth vote on which projects they want implemented

2016-2017



Fund

The City funds and carries out the winning proposals



**Strengthening Seattle by
Actively Engaging All Communities**

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

PB: YOUTH VOICE, YOUTH CHOICE

2016 TIMELINE

January—February: Seattle residents attend public assemblies to learn about PB and brainstorm potential project ideas.

March—April: Youth volunteers meet in committees to review project ideas from assemblies and turn them into concrete proposals for the PB ballot.

May: Seattle youth come out to learn about the projects on the PB ballot and vote on which will be funded.

June and beyond: Winning projects are implemented by the City.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Become a Community Partner

Community Partners of Seattle's Youth Participatory Budgeting play a crucial role in the process by engaging youth, spreading the word about PB, providing meeting spaces throughout the community, and volunteering at PB events. Participatory Budgeting is a process that only gets better when more members of the community contribute to the process, so consider becoming a Community Partner to Youth Participatory Budgeting. For more information, please contact Rahwa Habte at Rahwa.Habte@seattle.gov.

Attend a community event

Stay up-to-date on the latest events going on in the PB process by checking out: seattle.gov/neighborhoods/youth-participatory-budgeting.

Share your idea on social media

Community members of any age can suggest how to spend \$700,000 of the City's Budget. Post your project idea on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram with the hashtag #YouthVoiceSea.

Facebook: Youth Voice, Youth Choice

Instagram: @youthvoiceryouthchoice

Twitter: @seayouthvoice

Contact Information

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