

A large crowd of people, mostly women, are gathered in a large hall, many holding up small white cards. In the background, there are banners with text in Portuguese, including "ABORTO NÃO DEVE SER CRIME" and "CUT!".

Participatory Budgeting

Committing to equity, health, and deep community engagement in Richmond



Team and Why

- Ebony Walden - Ebony Walden Consulting
- Ryan Rinn - former Director of Storefront for Community Design
- Albert Walker - Richmond Memorial Health Foundation
- Matthew Slaats - PauseLab
- Daniel Wagner - City Liaison for Councilman Addison

We have come together because of a belief that Richmond desires new/deeper forms of community engagement that centers the voices and knowledge of residents, but also works with the knowledge in City to make Richmond and even greater city.

PB Process

Design *the process*

A steering committee, representative of the community, creates the rules in partnership with government officials to ensure the process is inclusive and meets local needs.

Brainstorm *ideas*

Through meetings and online tools, residents share and discuss ideas for projects.

OUTCOMES OF PB

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

Improve the process and spread the word for next year!



Fund *winning projects*

The government implements the winning projects, such as laptops in schools, Wi-Fi in public parks, or traffic safety improvements. The government and residents track and monitor implementation.



Develop *proposals*

Volunteers, usually called budget delegates, develop the ideas into feasible proposals, which are then vetted by experts.

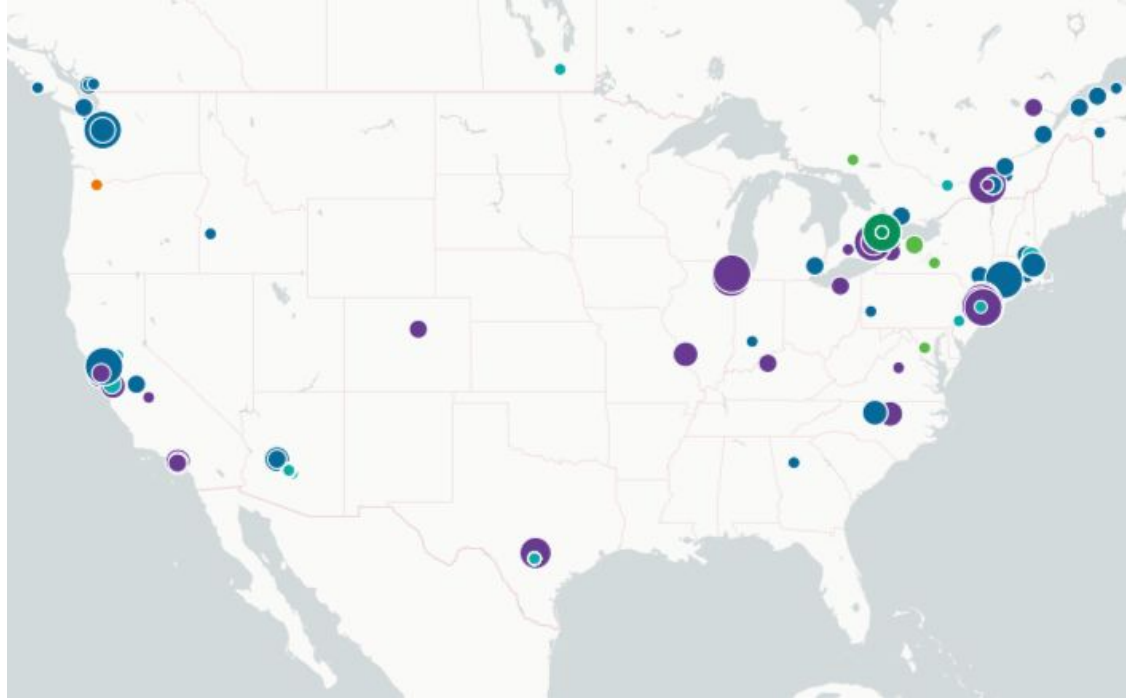


Vote

Residents vote to divide the available budget between the proposals. It's a direct, democratic voice in their community's future.

PB History

- 30 Year History - Started in Brazil
- Over 1500 cities worldwide
- Started in the US in 2008
- Greensboro/Durham/Charlottesville
- While there is a tested framework each city does it a bit differently
- Funding comes from various budgets
- Funded projects vary each year



Project Title	Project Category	Project Cost
Technology for DPS	Safety & Environment	\$134,784
Accessible Ramps	Other	\$56,650
LGBTQ Youth Center (citywide)	Health & Wellness	\$37,767
STEM & Entrepreneurship Program	Parks & Recreation	\$99,121
Bus Shelters with Reclaimed Art & Solar Panels (citywide)	Safety & Environment	\$131,919
Street Trees	Safety & Environment	\$67,980
Historic Monuments (Fayetteville Street)	Arts & Culture	\$89,702
ADA Equipment (Drew Granby)	Parks & Recreation	\$79,310





PBRVA Focus

Health & Equity



PBRVA Timeline

Fall 2019 - Fall 2020

- Work with City Council and City Staff
- Build a conversation with the Community
- Develop Partnerships
- Define Equity Index
- Engage Philanthropy
- Set funding limits
- Design the Process

Fall 2020 - Spring 2021

- Collect Ideas from Residents
- Community Assessment of Ideas
- Community Project Proposal Development
- Vote on Projects
- Implementation of winning projects
- Review/Analysis of Process
- Make changes and start year 2



Goals

1. Resolution
2. Working together
3. Accessing other resources
4. Build a conversation with the community



Thank You!

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