

What is Participatory Budgeting in Vallejo?

In November 2011, Vallejo voters passed Measure B, a one percent sales tax, to restore and enhance services. On April 17, 2012, the City Council established the first city-wide Participatory Budgeting (PB) process in the United States. PB enables taxpayers to work with government to help make budget decisions, while involving taxpayers in a unique and innovative method of managing public budgets. Through PB the City aims to more closely engage residents in their government. Each year the City Council provides a portion of the Measure B Revenues to be allocated through PB.

The PB Steering Committee outlined four goals for Vallejo's PB process: 1) improve the City of Vallejo, 2) engage the community, 3) transform democracy, and 4) open up government.

There are four major steps in the PB process:

1. **Idea Collection** - Community meetings are held in locations throughout the City where residents generate public project ideas. The in-person assemblies are complemented by a website where residents can submit project ideas online.
2. **Proposal Development** - Residents volunteer to serve as budget delegates on a committee tasked with screening project ideas for eligibility, prioritizing ideas based on public benefit and need, and developing those ideas into detailed proposals for a public vote.
3. **Voting Expos** - Voting takes place over several days in various locations around Vallejo and online. Expos display the proposals on the ballot for residents to learn more. Any Vallejo resident age 16 and older can vote in the PB election.
4. **Funding and Implementation** - The projects receiving the greatest number of votes are approved by City Council.

In the first two cycles of PB, more than 10,000 residents participated, generating more than 1,400 project ideas. So far, 20 projects were recommended by voters and approved by the City Council totaling more than \$5.6 million in funding. The projects support capital improvements, programs, and services, including street and sidewalk repairs, parks improvements, public safety cameras, community gardens, new band instruments for schools, summer youth internships, a fire rescue truck, and public art.

PB is more than a consultation—it has given residents an opportunity to participate in the City decision-making in an unprecedented way and builds community capacity and social capital. Vallejo residents who participated in PB said their circles of acquaintances grew and they were more likely to cooperate with neighbors to take on community issues. PB has become a catalyst for Vallejo's reform, and residents have a restored sense of pride.

Special thanks to:

**The Vallejo Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee
Stanford University's Crowdsourced Democracy Team**

and

All the volunteers who spent countless hours to help improve Vallejo



For more information:

Visit: www.pbvallejo.org

Call: 707-648-4577

Text VOTE to: 707-998-5686

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Participatory Budgeting Vallejo



2015 OFFICIAL BALLOT

VOTING CODE: _____

1 vote	4 votes
PEOPLE	INFRASTRUCTURE
<p>One-year programs that follow Federal Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a program, service, training, class, event, workshop, social service, education, internship, certification course, and/or ongoing assistance • 51% or more of participants are low- to moderate-income 	<p>Builds infrastructure for a public agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • streets/roads • public facilities • buildings <p>Purchases an asset for a public agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment • Vehicles • Materials • Tools

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:

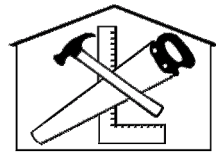
- Every ballot must have a voting code sticker
- You may not use votes from one section in another
- You cannot vote for the same project more than once
- Ballots marked with more than the allowable votes are invalid
- Use black or blue ink - ballots marked in pencil will NOT be counted



PEOPLE

Vote for
1 of 2
Projects

- Afterschool Sports Program - Soccer & Basketball** **\$ 50,000**
Fund coaches for the ASES Afterschool Sports Program providing soccer & basketball to students at 14 Elementary and Middle schools in Vallejo that serve youth from low- to moderate-income households.
PARTNER: VCUSD
LOCATIONS: 11 Elementary and 3 Middle Schools
- Vallejo Firefighter Youth Academy** **\$ 50,000**
A youth development and mentoring program with life guidance and firefighter career exploration for youth ages 14-18 who are at risk of social, academic and/or economic challenges.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Various Vallejo Fire Department stations

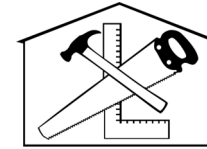


INFRASTRUCTURE

Vote for
4 of 17
Projects

- Enhance Neighborhood Watch - Outreach Van for VPD** **\$ 50,000**
Purchases a custom van, portable canopies, chairs, tables, and multimedia presentation equipment for Vallejo Police Department Community Service Division to bring neighborhood watch training citywide.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Citywide
- Enhanced Disaster Response** **\$ 155,000**
Items to help improve disaster response; equipment caches for neighborhood use by CERT, more customized equipment for VFD's new rescue truck and radio components to aid emergency communication.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Citywide
- Improve Vallejo's Image by Upgrading Public Events** **\$ 110,000**
Purchase a modern, mobile stage complete with light and sound to improve Vallejo's image thru public events and festivals. Stage can be rented at fraction of retail cost from GVRD for public events.
PARTNER: GVRD
LOCATION: Citywide
- Beautify Downtown and Georgia Park** **\$ 155,000**
Enhance the security and beauty of the Downtown by installing tree and decorative lighting to alleyways and streets and install lighting, benches, drought-resistant plants and trees in Georgia Park.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATIONS: Streets/Alleys & Georgia Park in Downtown Vallejo
- School Roads Repair** **\$ 400,000**
Repair roads adjacent to schools most in need of repair. Public Works engineers will identify roads based on the Pavement Condition Index.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATIONS: Citywide roads adjacent to VCUSD schools
- U Help Vallejo Kids Win - Afterschool Tech Program** **\$ 240,000**
Support student achievement in Math and Technology with After School Education and Safety Program [ASES] in 14 VCUSD schools through the purchase of 280 iPads.
PARTNER: VCUSD
LOCATIONS: 11 Elementary and 3 Middle Schools

MORE PROJECTS



INFRASTRUCTURE

(continued...)

Vote for
4 of 17
Projects

- Commercial/Event Kitchen at GVRD Community Center** **\$ 155,000**
Build a commercial kitchen at GVRD's Vallejo Community Center on Amador St., adding an amenity to a public building to benefit residents who can rent for weddings, receptions, events & parties.
PARTNER: GVRD
LOCATION: Vallejo Community Center at 225 Amador St.
- Safety Through School Fences** **\$ 40,000**
Install, upgrade and repair fences at 5 schools that are most in-need based on VCUSD's School Fences District Wide evaluation (Pennycook, Mare Island, Highland, Charter Elementary & Franklin M.S.).
PARTNER: VCUSD
LOCATIONS: 4 Elementary and 1 Middle School
- Safer Streets - Bike Lanes & Markings** **\$ 117,000**
Increase safety and awareness on roads with bicycle lane striping and markings along at-risk Vallejo streets identified by City traffic engineers.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Citywide
- Waterfront History Arts Park** **\$ 395,000**
Transform the barren, dirt lot on the Waterfront into a relaxing, fun, eco-friendly, family-friendly gathering spot for special celebrations, community arts, and creative educational offerings.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Independence Park region, south of Ferry terminal
- Waterfront Flags and Welcome Signs** **\$ 215,000**
New Flags and Flagpoles and sidewalk mosaics would beautify our waterfront. New welcome signs at City entrances would let visitors and residents know they are entering a vibrant city.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Waterfront and Main entryways to Vallejo
- Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming** **\$ 400,000**
Increase pedestrian safety in and near the most dangerous crosswalks and roadways in Vallejo by enhancing the capacity of Public Works to deploy safety devices and traffic calming interventions.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Citywide
- Path 2 Vallejo's Future! Waterfront Promenade Ramp** **\$ 330,000**
Ramp connection from Waterfront Promenade Path to Mare Island Causeway sidewalk. Provides Safe, Convenient Pedestrian, Wheelchair and Bicycle access. Reduces traffic conflict; completes the Promenade.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: North Waterfront Promenade Path next to Coastguard
- Fountains of Native Flora** **\$ 65,000**
Plant native, drought-tolerant plants in the currently nonoperational fountains on the steps between the JFK Library and City Hall and in the small lawn in front of the unused fountains.
PARTNER: City of Vallejo
LOCATION: Vallejo City Hall & JFK Library Courtyard
- Mobile Nutritional Cooking Carts for Kids** **\$ 110,000**
Purchase of 14 mobile cooking kitchen carts for VCUSD schools to provide hands-on learning about cooking, nutrition, & health at schools serving Vallejo youth from low- to moderate-income households.
PARTNER: VCUSD
LOCATIONS: 11 Elementary and 3 Middle Schools