



**OUR** COMMUNITY.  
VOICE.  
DECISION.

Participatory Budgeting in the 49th Ward

**Cycle 14: 2023**

 PB Chicago

**UIC** GREAT CITIES  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO INSTITUTE

**MARIA**  
**HADDEN**  
49<sup>TH</sup> Ward Alderwoman

# AGENDA

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- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Introduction to Menu Money and Participatory Budgeting**
- **How to get involved**
- **Next Steps**
- **Q & A**

# WHAT IS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING?



A democratic process in which the community directly decides how to spend part of a public budget.

This process was first developed in Brazil in 1989. Since then PB has spread to over 7,000 cities around the world.

# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO US?

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In 2009, former Alderman Joe Moore introduced the Participatory Budgeting process to Rogers Park. This was the first PB process in the city as well as the United States. This PB process is an opportunity for the community to get involved in civic participation that has impacts at the local level.



P B Chicago

# PB CHICAGO GOALS



**SUSTAINABLE**

**INCLUSION**

**EQUITY**

**PB is a tool that helps educate residents about governmental processes,**

**Since its inception, PB Chicago has engaged over 13,000 residents in 12 different communities to directly decide how to spend over \$18 million in public dollars.**

# WHAT IS ALDERMANIC MENU MONEY?

Each year, each ward receives \$1.5 Million for the Aldermanic Menu Program. In the 49th Ward, \$1 Million is allocated to PB and the rest is reserved for any emergency expenses.

This money is typically used to address infrastructure repairs such as:

- Street & Alley Resurfacing
- Sidewalk & Curb Repairs
- Lighting (e.g. Street Lights, Pedestrian Traffic Signals)
- Traffic calming infrastructure

# HOW DOES PB WORK IN CHICAGO?



Community members submit ideas

Community Representatives develop proposals based on feasibility

Developed ideas are presented to the community

The community votes!

The City funds the top projects

# PB IDEA FEASIBILITY

**Menu money funds can only be spent on capital projects and not operating costs.**

**Project ideas should be:**

- Infrastructure/physical installations
- Low-maintenance
- Accessible and easy-to-use
- Open to the public

**Example:**  
Mary Margaret Langdon Park Mini  
Astro-turf Soccer Field





# PB IDEA FEASIBILITY (continued)

**Examples of projects that were funded in the past:**

- Outdoor exercise equipment at Loyola Park
- Upgraded street lighting
- Zocalo / community space at Touhy Park
- Street resurfacing
- Pottawattomie Park  
Dog-Friendly Area



# WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

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## **Everyone can participate in PB!**

Anyone can attend an assembly and propose a project idea.

To be a PB Community Representative, you must live in the ward, work in the ward, own a business in the ward, attend school in the ward OR have children who attend school in the ward.

Anyone living in the ward and at least **14 years of age** can vote for a project!

# HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

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## Submit an idea!

## Be a community Representative!

- Community Representatives will meet about 6–8 times from August–November to work on proposals for the ballot and help get out the vote.

## Volunteer to help out in the ward!

- Volunteer to help organize the process, do outreach, or volunteer in other ways.
- Encourage friends and neighbors to come to our next Neighborhood Assembly!

## Vote for the final Projects

# Participation process for Community Representatives

## Sign-up to be a Community Rep.

Sign Up with the google form provided

## Join a PB Committee

- Arts & Culture
- Parks & Environment
- Streets & Infrastructure
- Public health & Safety

## Idea vetting

Determining community necessity and feasibility through discussions and the usage of idea evaluation tools.

## Project Development

Work with government liaisons, Chicago Park District representatives, and other City Departments to determine the feasibility of the ideas to develop them.

## Project Expos

Present the developed projects to the community.

## PB Vote!

Put the developed projects up for voting and fund the top projects.



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# PB's Impacts

- Increased **civic engagement**, especially among the youth!
- Stronger and more **collaborative** relationships between residents, government, and community organizations.
- More **inclusive** political participation, especially by historically marginalized communities.
- New community leaders!

**PB = Activation Space**

# Idea Collection is now open!

Monday, July 24th - Monday, August 14th

## How to submit an idea:

Virtually

Google Form

[bit.ly/PB49Idea](https://bit.ly/PB49Idea)

In-person

Idea Collection  
Event

Ward Office

Monday - Thursday,  
9am - 5pm

# Sign up for our 49th Ward Newsletter to stay tuned-in!



**Weekly email that includes information about local events, resources, City updates, PB, and more!**

**Register here:**

[bit.ly/49thWardNews](https://bit.ly/49thWardNews)

**Want to see our previous PB49 cycles?**

**Please visit and use the buttons at the bottom of the webpage:**

[49thward.org/participatory-budgeting-1](https://49thward.org/participatory-budgeting-1)



# Idea Collection Google Form QR Code



[bit.ly/PB49Idea](https://bit.ly/PB49Idea)



**PB**

**49**