

A Voice – A Vote

Freehold Borough
Participatory Budgeting

Background

- Participatory Budgeting Started 1989 In Porto Alegre, Brazil
- Currently used by 1,500 Cities around the World ... New York, Chicago, London and Mexico City
- Designed to Engage Citizens and Promote the Democratic Process

How does it work?

- Residents vote on how to spend part of the Freehold Borough budget
 - Does Not Increase The Budget Or Taxes
- Capital Side Of The Budget Vs Operations

What kinds of projects are possible?

- Capital Projects only
- Must be on public property
- Freehold Borough Is Allocating \$200,000 To This Program

Example Projects

- Park Improvements
- Traffic Safety
- Library Improvements
- Street Lighting
- Side Walks

What is not possible?

- Projects on private property
- Projects with a short life span
- Funding a block party, sports team, etc.
- Projects that don't have a community benefit
- Projects that cost more than our budget
- Projects that are not capital projects

What is the process?

- Public Submits ideas
- Committee reviews Ideas for rule compliance
- Compliant Projects Reviewed By Professionals Who Assign Estimated Costs
- Voting Over Several Days
- Election Results Are Announced
- Borough Produces Projects
 - Some Projects May Require Contracts, Bid Process Or Coordination With County, State Or Federal Agencies