## Freehold Borough





# OPEN AND INNOVATIVE GOVERNMENT

#### **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT and INVOLVEMENT**

"Freehold Borough PB is an inclusionary process that targets all residents. In the Borough, many of our residents feel they don't have a voice. PB encourages residents who feel excluded, who don't participate to come out and let their voices be heard."

Mayor Kevin Kane

## **HISTORY**

- → Participatory Budgeting began in Brazil in 1989.
- → Freehold Borough implemented the program on an annual basis in 2017.
- → Each PB cycle, participants submit 30 project ideas on average.
- → To date, Freehold Borough residents have voted to fund over \$450,000 for 19 PB projects.

#### How PB works

- → Anyone aged 14 and older can submit project ideas to be funded.
- → Projects are vetted by the PB Committee and Borough professionals.
- → Who can vote:
  - Borough residents aged 14 and older
  - Borough business owners
- → Governing body funds the winning projects

## What qualifies as a project?

- → Capital Projects; i.e., park improvements, playground equipment, ball fields, sidewalk repair, bike lanes, signage, lighting, garbage receptacles...
- → Must be on public property
- → Must have 5 year or more life span and low maintenance cost
- → Project cost cannot exceed \$200,000

#### **Examples of winning PB Projects:**

#### Lighting at the Little League Field



Night games allow more time for season and postseason games

## Sidewalk repairs



Neighborhoods are safer and provides added curb appeal

## Tree Replacement



Aesthetically pleasing and environmentally beneficial

Lake Topanemus Pedestrian Bridge



Safer access to the edge of the pond for fishing

#### Other Winning Projects

New Roof for the Fire House
Solar Speed Limit Signs
Lighting at Lake Topanemus
ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliant Playground Equipment
at Veterans Park

Water Filling Stations at Veterans and Liberty St Park
Trail Extension at Lake Topanemus
Traffic Light Generators for South & Main, Park & Main, and Elks Point
Welcome to Freehold Signs

Picnic Tables and Benches at Lake Topanemus
Solar Lighting for Flag Poles in Parks
Street Lights for Downtown Freehold
ADA compliant Fishing Pier at Lake Topanemus
Portable Surveillance Cameras for Increased Security

#### How you can participate

 Project submission forms will be posted on the Participatory Budget Committee link on the Freehold Borough Website or scan the QR code:

<u>Freehold NJ - Participatory Budgeting Committee</u>



- Submit your project idea(s)
- Projects can be promoted by the submitter once determined ballot eligible

#### 2024 Timeline

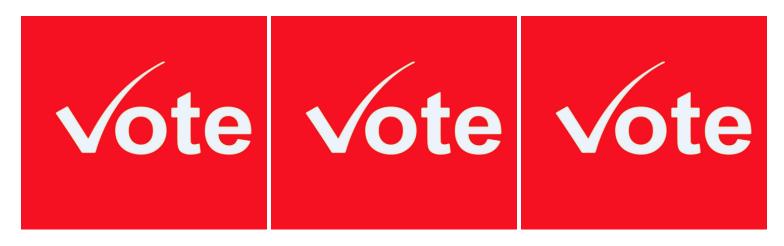
April 15 through July 31: Project idea submission

**August:** PB Committee and Borough professionals vet projects to determine which projects meet the PB guidelines.

September 19: Town Hall meeting to present the 2024 PB Projects selected for the ballot. Those selected are encouraged to promote their project(s) by attending the Town Hall, describing their project(s) on the PB Facebook page or their own Social Media, or attending the Latino Festival with the PB Committee to promote their project(s).

September 19 through 30: Voting takes place.

#### September 19th - 30th



Let your voice be heard!!!
Who can vote?

- ☑ Borough residents aged 14 and older
  - ☑ Borough business owners



Winning Projects will be announced on the Participatory Budget Facebook page and at the Monday, October 7th Town Council Meeting

> 6:30 pm Borough Hall 30 Mechanic Street



## Questions?