

## **Participatory Budgeting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

### **What is Participatory Budgeting?**

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a democratic process designed to engage the community in the budget process. Residents will have the opportunity to propose ideas, participate in active discussion, and vote on which neighborhood projects should receive public funds.

### **How much money is allotted for this program?**

For the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year, there will be \$200,000 available that can be used to implement projects

### **How can I get involved?**

You can become a steering committee member, budget delegate, share your ideas online or using in-person forms, outreach to your community, and vote.

- Steering Committee members appoint budget delegates, establish criteria & categories for project proposal submission, and work with the City of San José on project vetting criteria
- Budget Delegates conduct outreach in the community, vet ideas that have been submitted, and work with the City of San José to create ideas into detailed proposals that you, the community, can vote on
- Community members share project ideas, encourage participation in their neighborhoods, and vote on their favorite projects

### **What is the project eligibility criteria?**

- Benefits the public at large and is a one-time expense that can be completed with the \$200,000 allocated for the 2018—2019 Participatory Budgeting process
- Capital projects that involve (usually) infrastructure improvements and are tangible
- Implemented on City of San José property (ie: streets, sidewalks, libraries, community centers, parks, municipal buildings, creeks, trails, etc...)
- Examples include: park benches, traffic calming, technology integration, & art projects

### **How do I share my project idea(s)?**

You can share ideas online or in-person by filling out a hard copy form, available at Calabazas and West Valley Branch libraries, Cypress Community & Senior Center, and City Hall.

Remember that you can submit more than once!

### Can I view other project proposals?

Yes! Project proposals will be posted on the website. If a project does not pass the initial vetting phase, reasoning for this decision will be posted for community members to view.

### How do I vote?

You will be able to vote online and in-person at specified balloting locations. This information will be made available soon.

### How do I get more information?

Check out our website! You will find past meeting agendas, minutes, and videos. The website is updated regularly to provide you with the most up-to-date information.

### How long does this process take?

Check out the timeline below for details on the process. Note that it is subject to slight changes.



**Remember, this is a transparent process so you can find out what is happening every step of the way and provide your input!**

\*Information on this document is subject to change.  
Please check the website for the most updated information.