A People's Budget:

A Research and
Evaluation Report on
Participatory Budgeting
in New York City

Cycle 3

By the Community Development Project at the Urban Justice Center with the PBNYC Research Team

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Introduction

The third cycle of Participatory Budgeting in New York City was the largest PB process in the US.

Nearly 17,000 people voted on how to spend over $14M of public money.

From September 2013 to April 2014, more than 18,000 New Yorkers in ten City Council districts came together for the third cycle of Participatory Budgeting in New York City. Through this community-driven budgeting process, they brainstormed ideas to improve their neighborhoods, volunteered to refine those ideas into project proposals for the district ballots, and, ultimately, came together to vote on which proposals should be funded. These New Yorkers exercised direct decision-making power to allocate over $14 million of City Council funds: an increase of nearly $9 million from the first cycle of Participatory Budgeting in New York.

Participatory Budgeting (PB) allows community members—instead of elected officials alone— to determine how public funds should be spent, from start to finish. Three years ago, in 2011-12, a historic pilot process in four City Council districts brought this unique form of direct democracy to the city. In 2012-13 the process doubled to eight districts, and in the third cycle it has grown to ten. This year 16,642 voters cast PB ballots, making this cycle the largest PB process in the United States.[1]

As in previous years, this cycle of PB engaged those who are often disenfranchised and excluded from traditional voting and other forms of political participation. Young people, people of color, low-income earners, immigrants, women, and formerly incarcerated people are encouraged to participate in PB, and work with others in their district, as well as their elected officials, to generate ideas, craft proposals, and make real, lasting decisions about their communities.

PB in New York City is poised to undergo a transformation. Participation in the upcoming cycle is anticipated to more than double, with 23 Council members committed to the process.[2] This expansion is coupled with a commitment by newly elected Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito to provide central Council resources—both in-kind staff and financial—to PB, a first for the City. These changes are explored further in the following section, and the recommendations in this report are made with this expansion in mind.

A New Political Landscape for PB

As this third cycle of PB was underway, a major shift was occurring in the political landscape of New York City. The November 2013 elections significantly altered the composition of the Council, and ushered in 21 new Council members: a turnover of nearly half of the Council's body of 51. PB arose as a campaign issue in many Council races. Constituents asked questions about PB at candidate forums, community-based organizations advocated to bring the process to their districts, and a candidate questionnaire from Community Voices Heard Power asked those running whether or not they would commit to implementing PB if elected. This advocacy, coupled with PB's success as demonstrated by those Council members already involved, yielded commitments from many of the newly-elected members as well as those already in office. PB is expected to more than double next year, with at least 23 members committed to participating in the upcoming cycle.[3]

In addition to turnover in the Council, the advocacy around PB, and the accompanying expansion of PB to additional districts, Melissa Mark-Viverito, a long time champion of PB and one of the four Council members to pilot the process, was elected by members as the City Council Speaker. The campaigning of Council members for the position of Council Speaker has historically occurred primarily behind closed doors, but this year saw a historic, televised public Speaker candidate forum , organized collaboratively with newly elected Council members and community groups, moderated by NY1's Errol Louis and broadcast live on NY1 and NY1 Noticias.[4] During this forum, PB was discussed at length, and Mark-Viverito committed to supporting the process through central staff resources were she to be elected Speaker. Upon her election to the position, she honored that commitment: for the first time in the history of PB in New York City, central Council resources, staff time, and logistical support will be dedicated to the process. While these dedicated resources constitute a major step in the growth of PB in New York, our recommendation section offers suggestions for supplemental support that will ensure that the PB process can expand as effectively as possible.

Speaker Mark-Viverito has also implemented changes in the system of discretionary funding allocations. Discretionary funds— the money that Council members allocate in their districts—have historically been distributed according to the Speaker's preference. This system was long criticized as one rife with political favoritism. As part of a rules reform package passed by the Council in May 2014, the distribution of funds has been standardized. Council Member Brad Lander, one of the four Council members to first pilot PB in the city, and the current chair of the Council Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, helped to move these reforms forward. Discretionary funds will now be distributed either equally among Council members (based on a publically available formula), or may also be distributed based on a formula that uses data about differences between districts (such as the poverty level of the districts) to guide the distribution of

funds.[5] This reform will allow Council members to predict in advance how much discretionary money they will have, which should make allocating money towards PB more straightforward.

These developments at the Council level, coupled with the election of Mayor Bill de Blasio—also a public proponent of PB[6]—situate New York City to become a leader in PB processes in the United States. In addition to looking at the PB process to date, this report offers recommendations for the newly-expanded and institutionalized process moving forward.

Agnes Rivera of Community Voices Heard during a press conference announcing the expansion of PB in the upcoming Cycle 4. Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and Council Member Donovan Richards look on.

Background

How the NYC Budget Works

To understand why Participatory Budgeting is unique, it is helpful to consider how PB compares to the traditional budgeting process in NYC. The budgeting process is detailed in the report from Cycle 1 of PBNYC.

For more information, please see:
http://cdp-ny.org/report/pbreport.pdf

Eligible Participatory Budgeting Projects:

As in the previous cycles of PB, Council member discretionary funds were used to pay for capital projects only. There is a very strict test for funding projects in the city's Capital Budget. **In order to be eligible for PB, a project must meet all of the following three conditions:**

1. **Cost at least $35,000**
2. **Have a "useful life" of at least five years**
3. **Involve the construction, reconstruction, acquisition or installation of a physical public improvement**

NYC Budget Timeline[7]

February Mayor releases the Preliminary Budget for the following fiscal year	→	City Council holds public hearings	→	**Late March** City Council issues a response to the preliminary budget
Mayor and City Council negotiate and create a balanced budget	←	City Council holds public hearings	←	**Late April** Mayor releases the Executive Budget
Early June City Council votes on budget	→	Mayor decides whether or not to veto increases made by City Council	→	**Late June** City Council votes on adopted budget

How Participatory Budgeting Works

Annual PB Cycle

First Round of Neighborhood Assemblies
September–November

At public meetings in each district, the Council Members present information on the budget funds and residents brainstorm project ideas and select budget delegates.

1,661 people participated in 69 assemblies.

Delegate Orientations
November

Delegates who volunteered to serve at assemblies learn about the budget process, project development and key spending areas, then form committees.

Delegate Meetings
November–March

Delegates, with support from Council Member staff, meet in committees to review project proposals, meet with city agency staff to discuss the eligibility of projects, and ultimately transform the community's initial project ideas into full proposals.

Project Expos
March

Delegates return to the community in another round of meetings to present draft project proposals.

Voting
April

Delegates present the final project proposals and residents vote on which projects to fund.

16,642 people voted citywide.

Evaluation, Implementation & Monitoring
April & onwards

Delegates and other participants evaluate the process, then continue to meet and oversee the implementation of projects.

Research and Evaluation

New York City FY 2015 Budget vs. Budget for PBNYC

Note that the 2013-14 PB Process influences the FY2015 budget.

While the number of Council members participating in PB (and therefore the money allocated to the process) has grown over the past three years, PB remains a tiny fraction of the overall budget.

$75.0 Billion
Total NYC Expense Budget[8]

$6.1 Billion
Total NYC Capital Budget[9]

$465 Million
Discretionary Capital Funds[11]

$14.5 Million
Total amount allocated to PB

$52.6 Million
Discretionary Expense Funds[10]

Money allocated to PB in each cycle

$5.6 Million allocated to PB in Cycle 1

$9.8 Million allocated to PB in Cycle 2

$14.5 Million allocated to PB in Cycle 3
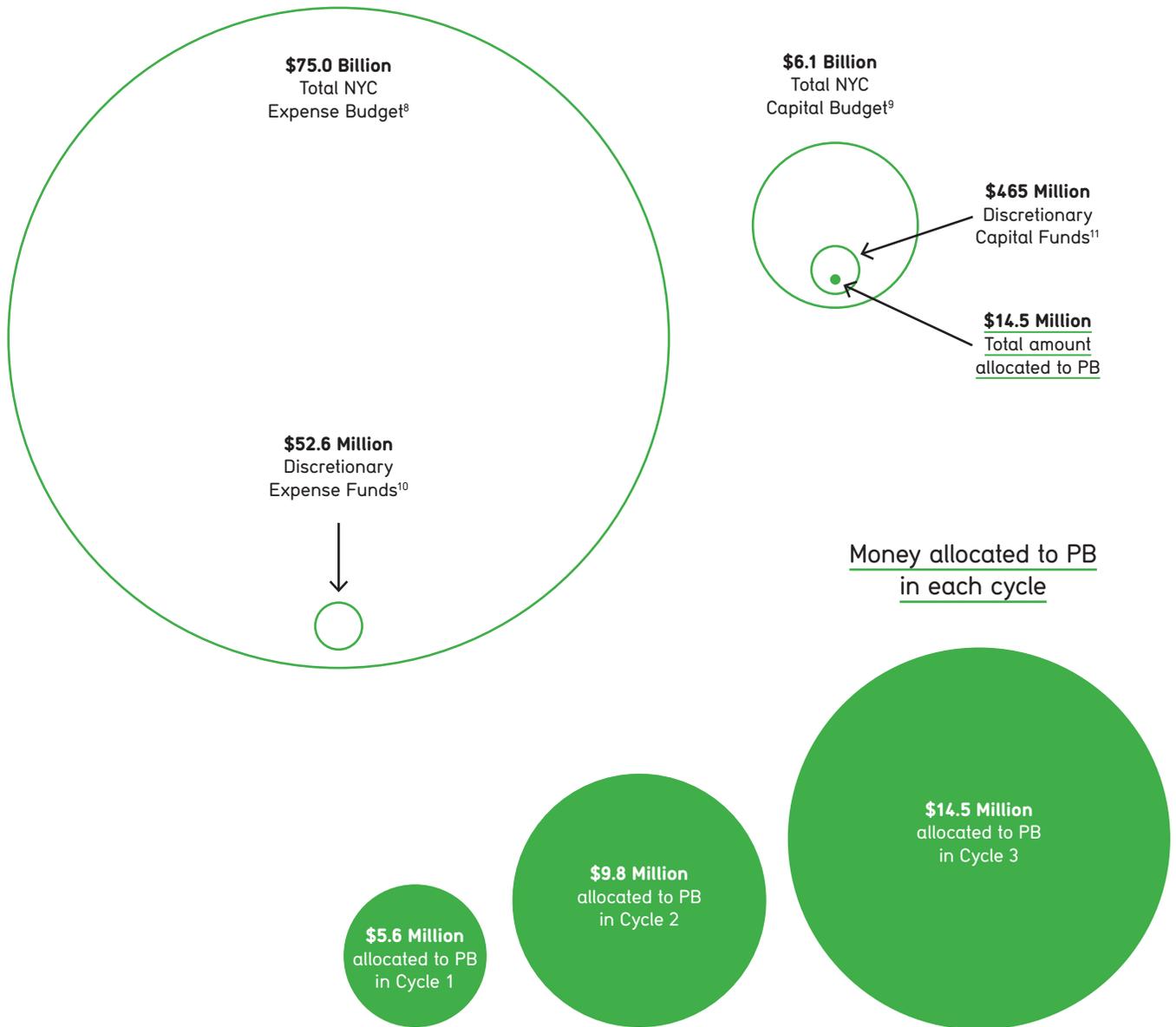
	NYC Expense Budget	NYC Capital Budget	Capital Discretionary Funds	Total Amount Allocated to PB
FY 2013 (Cycle 1)	$68.5 billion	$9.2 billion	$489 million	$5.6 million
FY 2014 (Cycle 2)	$71.3 billion	$15.5 billion	$547 million	$9.8 million
FY 2015 (Cycle 3)	$75.0 billion	$6.1 billion	$465 million	$14.5 million

Research Methodology

Nearly <u>9,000</u> surveys, <u>53</u> observations, and <u>104</u> in-depth interviews

Throughout the PB Process, the PB-NYC Research Team, led by the Community Development Project at the Urban Justice Center, collected nearly 9,000 surveys and conducted 53 meeting observations and 61 PB voter exit interviews in the ten participating City Council districts. An additional 104 in-depth interviews were conducted, which include interviews with past and current budget delegates, city agency representatives, and organizations and individuals working with immigrants, youth or public housing residents. We collected quantitative and qualitative data to examine participation at key points in the PB process to examine the impact PB has on civic engagement and governance and to conduct ongoing evaluation of the process. Specifically, data was collected at neighborhood assemblies, from budget delegates and at the vote. Researchers also conducted interviews throughout the cycle.

Methods

Background and Secondary Research

Researchers collected data on the NYC budget, population demographics ,and voting patterns in the participating districts to explore how PB impacts government spending and operations, and to conduct a comparative analysis of participation in PB. Data sources include census data, the General Social Survey, and 2013 voter data from the Voter Activation Network and Catalist. For more information on the use of these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

Surveys and Evaluation Forms

Nearly 9,000 surveys were collected to examine who participated in PB, how they learned and changed from the process and what outreach methods were most effective. Survey respondents included:

- Neighborhood Assembly participants: **1,095**
- Budget Delegates: **226**
- Voters: **7,632**

Researchers conducted **104 in-depth interviews** to examine how and why people participated in PB, what participants learned from PB, how they changed from the process, and how it affected relationships between city officials, city staff and community members. This includes: 72 in-depth interviews with past and current budget delegates; 22 interviews with organizations and individuals that work with immigrants, youth or public housing residents; and 10 interviews with city agency representatives. Researchers also collected 61 exit interviews with PB voters.

Observations

Researchers collected **53 observations of PB neighborhood assemblies** to examine the dynamics of participation in PB.

Ballot Data

Researchers analyzed data from 12,613 ballots which were counted centrally at the New York City Council Offices. This year, ballots were printed with barcodes, which were then scanned to tabulate votes. This centralization provided standard, computerized ballot data for the first time. Available data included language of ballot, number of projects selected, and specific projects selected. Some ballots came from known vote sites, and that data was also tabulated (for other ballots, the vote site was labeled "unknown"). Researchers further refined the data by categorizing vote sites and project types. This data allowed researchers to explore voting trends. No ballot data was collected from districts 23, 32, or 44, which counted ballots at their district offices.

Roadmap for report

The following report has 12 sections. This includes a **citywide section**, which presents aggregated data on participation, civic engagement, outreach and proposed and funded projects for the ten participating City Council districts. Continued trends—those observed over multiple PB cycles—are presented, as well as new findings from this cycle. Three community highlight sections focusing on the participation of immigrants, public housing residents, and youth, are also included.

The subsequent sections provide a more **detailed breakdown for each of the districts**: 5 (Kallos), 8 (Mark-Viverito), 23 (Weprin), 31 (Richards), 32 (Ulrich), 33 (Levin), 38 (Menchaca), 39 (Lander), 44 (Greenfield) and 45 (Williams).

The report concludes with a set of **recommendations for the PB process** in NYC as it expands in the next cycle and beyond.

City-wide Findings

District 5 Findings

District 8 Findings

District 23 Findings

District 31 Findings

District 32 Findings

District 33 Findings

District 38 Findings

District 39 Findings

District 44 Findings

District 45 Findings

Recommendations

Council districts that have participated in 3 PB Cycles:
Cycle 1 (2011–12), Cycle 2 (2012–13) and Cycle 3 (2013–14)
Districts 8, 32, 39 and 45

Council Member	District	Neighborhoods	Total PB Participants in Cycle 3	Amount Allocated in Cycle 3	Key Demographics	Unique Characteristics
Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito (Democrat)	8th Man Bnx	Concourse El Barrio/ East Harlem Highbridge Longwood Mott Haven[12]	1,939	$1,985,000 to 5 winning projects	69% of the district's population identifies as Hispanic or Latino/a and 26% as African-American or Black.[13] 55% of residents speak Spanish as their primary language.[14]	The district has the highest concentration of public housing in the city.[15] One of only two Council Districts that span two boroughs. Redistricting significantly changed the district boundaries since the last PB cycle. The Bronx section, previously only a small portion of the district, was expanded significantly, and Bronx and Manhattan neighborhoods now make up nearly the same share of the district.
Eric Ulrich (Republican)	32nd Qns	Belle Harbor Breezy Point Broad Channel Hamilton Beach Lindenwood Neponsit Ozone Park Rockaway Beach South Ozone Park South Richmond Hill Woodhaven[16]	983	$2,026,000 to 11 winning projects	42% of the district's population identifies as White, 35% as Hispanic or Latino/a, and 15% as Asian.[17] 39% of the district has a household income between $25,000 and $75,000.[18]	This is the district's third cycle participating in PB, but first time the entire district has taken part. The district had two distinct voting processes— one for the Rockaways portion of the district and one for the mainland Queens section of the district. Much of the district is still recovering and rebuilding from the impact of Hurricane Sandy.

Council districts that have participated in 3 PB Cycles:
Cycle 1 (2011–12), Cycle 2 (2012–13) and Cycle 3 (2013–14)
Districts 8, 32, 39 and 45

Council Member	District	Neighborhoods	Total PB Participants in Cycle 3	Amount Allocated in Cycle 3	Key Demographics	Unique Characteristics
Brad Lander (Democrat)	39th Bkln	Borough Park Cobble Hill Carroll Gardens Columbia Waterfront Gowanus Kensington Park Slope Windsor Terrace[19]	2,509	$1,515,000 to 7 winning projects	57% of residents have a Bachelor's or graduate degree.[20] 51% of the district has a household income $75,000 or or above.[21]	The district is intersected by the Gowanus Canal and contains several parks and cemeteries. These geographical characteristics create distinct neighborhoods including higher-income Park Slope, Kensington with its large Bangladeshi population and Borough Park, a Jewish enclave.
Jumaane D. Williams (Democrat)	45th Bkln	East Flatbush Flatbush Flatlands Parts of Midwood and Canarsie	1,107	$1,161,000 to 4 winning projects	66% of the district's population identifies as African-American or Black and 21% as White.[23] 58% of district residents were born outside of the U.S.[24]	East Flatbush has the largest foreign-born population in Brooklyn, made up of immigrants from Jamaica, Haiti, Trinidad and Tobago.[25]

Council Member	District	Neighborhoods	Total PB Participants in Cycle 3	Amount Allocated in Cycle 3	Key Demographics	Unique Characteristics
Mark Weprin (Democrat)	23rd Qns	Bayside Hills Bellerose Douglaston Floral Park Fresh Meadows Glen Oaks Hollis Hollis Hills Hollis Park Garden Holliswood Little Neck New Hyde Park Oakland Garden Queens Village [26]	2,212	$1,105,785 to 5 winning projects	39% of the district's population identifies as Asian and 33% as White.[27] 53% of residents primarily speak a language other than English.[28]	The district has no subway stations. The district is largely comprised of residential neighborhoods in eastern Queens.
Stephen Levin (Democrat)	33rd Bkln	Bedford-Stuyvesant Brooklyn Heights Boerum Hill Downtown Brooklyn DUMBO Greenpoint Vinegar Hill Williamsburg[29]	2,148	$1,548,000 to 5 winning projects	75% of the district's population identifies as White and 15% as Hispanic or Latino/a.[30] 50% of residents have a Bachelor's or graduate degree.[31]	There are several large public housing developments in the district. The district spans the East River waterfront from Greenpoint down to Boerum Hill and includes downtown Brooklyn.
David Greenfield (Democrat)	44th Bkln	Bensonhurst Borough Park Midwood[32]	1,270	$970,000 to 4 winning projects	77% of the district's population identifies as White.[33] 66% of district residents primarily speak a language other than English.[34]	The Borough Park neighborhood is home to one of the largest Orthodox and Hasidic Jewish communities in the U.S.[35]

Council districts that were new to PB this Cycle (2013-14)
Districts 5, 31 and 38

Council Member	District	Neighborhoods	Total PB Participants in Cycle 3	Amount Allocated in Cycle 3	Key Demographics	Unique Characteristics
Ben Kallos (Democrat)	5th Man	Upper East Side Roosevelt Island Sutton Place[36]	567	$800,000 to 3 winning projects	76% of the district's population identifies as White, 11% Asian, and 10% Hispanic or Latino/a.[37] 48% of the district has a household income of $100,000 or above.[38]	The district only participated in the voting phase of PB, using a ballot of pre-approved, not yet funded projects. The district encompasses Roosevelt Island, which is in the East River between Manhattan and Queens.
Donovan Richards (Democrat)	31st Qns	Participating neighborhoods: Averne Bayswater Edgemere Far Rockaway Hammels[39]	2,213	$1,257,000 to 5 winning projects	79% of district residents in the participating neighborhoods have less than a Bachelor's degree.[40] 41% of residents in the participating neighborhoods are under 25 years old.[41]	Only the Rockaway portion of the district participated in PB. Part of the district is on the Rockaways Peninsula and is difficult to reach from the rest of the city. Much of the district is still recovering and rebuilding from the impact of Hurricane Sandy.
Carlos Menchaca* (Democrat)	38th Bkln	Red Hook, Sunset Park, South Slope, and parts of Windsor Terrace, Borough Park, Bensonhurst, and Bay Ridge[42]	3,236	$2,170,000 to 6 winning projects	44% of the district's population identifies as Hispanic or Latino/a, 35% as Asian, and 19% as White.[43] 53% of district residents were born outside of the U.S.[44]	Sunset Park has the largest Chinatown in Brooklyn and a large Latin American population. Portions of the district were significantly impacted by Hurricane Sandy, including Red Hook, which has a large amount of public housing. Recovery and rebuilding are ongoing.

* Note that Sara Gonzalez, who previously held office in District 38, made a commitment to dedicate $2 million to participatory budgeting. In November 2013, Carlos Menchaca was elected, and maintained that commitment.

Citywide Findings

Cycle 3 of PB engaged 18,184 people:

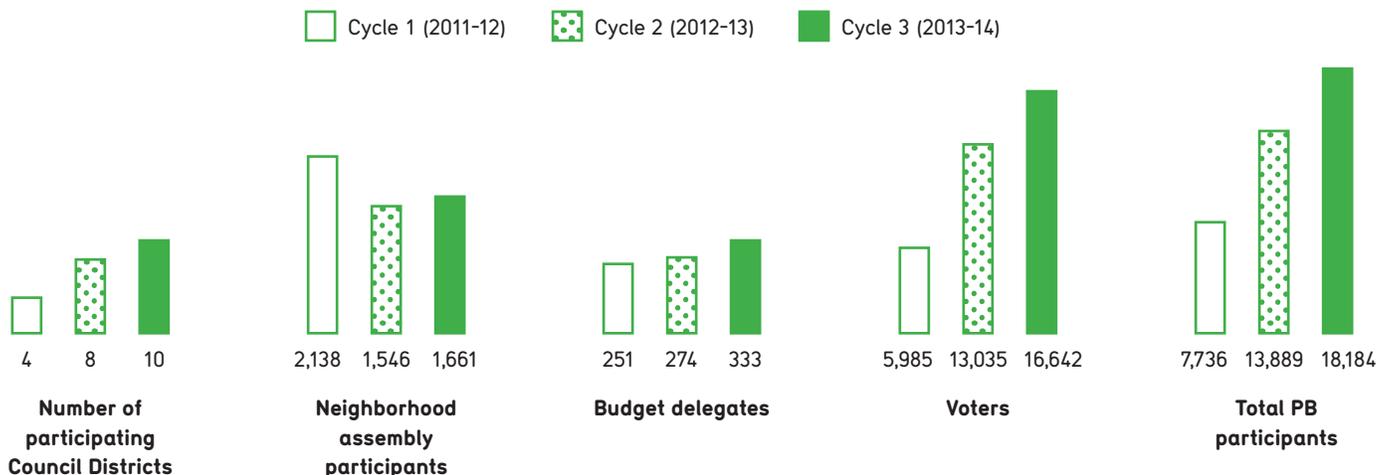1,661 Neighborhood Assembly attendees

333 Budget Delegates

16,642 Voters

The third cycle of PB, from September 2013 to April 2014, saw ten Council members engage in this unique form of community-driven budgeting. Districts 8 (Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, D), 23 (Mark Weprin, D), 31 (Donovan Richards, D), 32 (Eric Ulirch, R), 33 (Stephen Levin , D), 39 (Brad Lander, D), 44 (David Greenfield, D), 38 (Sara Gonzales, D; succeeded by Carlos Menchaca, D) and 45 (Jumaane D. Williams, D) took part in the full PB cycle. They were joined during the vote by District 5 (Ben Kallos, D).

Based on an aggregate analysis of over nearly 9,000 surveys, 61 exit interviews with PB voters, 53 meeting observations collected across the districts, 104 additional in-depth interviews, 12,613 centrally counted ballots, and multiple secondary data sources, researchers developed a set of citywide findings.

Data from Cycle 3 show the continuation of trends in participation that were identified in previous cycles: the engagement of a diverse group of long-term residents, more than half of whom are women, and many of whom had not previously worked with others toward community change. As in past cycles, many community members voted in PB at higher rates than in the local elections. PB also continues to provide new media opportunities to Council

The growth of PB from Cycles 1 through 3

Cycle 1 (2011-12)   Cycle 2 (2012-13)   Cycle 3 (2013-14)

Number of participating Council Districts	Neighborhood assembly participants	Budget delegates	Voters	Total PB participants
4 8 10	2,138 1,546 1,661	251 274 333	5,985 13,035 16,642	7,736 13,889 18,184

members. Council members continue to allocate funds to projects that were on the ballots but did not win, thus extending PB's impact on public spending beyond winning projects alone.

In addition to these ongoing trends, Cycle 3 data also show increased participation by communities that are often disenfranchised or marginalized, such as young people under 18, immigrants and low-income people. While these changes are driven in part by an overall shift in the demographics of participating Council districts—a result of the addition of Districts 31 and 38, which are majority people of color and have high numbers of non-English speakers, immigrants and low-income people—there were also changes in participation in many of the returning districts. Those changes are noted in detail in the following pages. Data shows that face-to-face outreach, and outreach by community groups, schools social networks (family and friends) are most likely to reach these communities. Research this cycle was also able to demonstrate that PB participants learn about the needs of their community, and that they gain an understanding of the work of people in government which, for many, resulted in having more respect for the job of elected officials.

The PBNYC Steering Committee meets to discuss the Cycle 3 PB process.

Cycle 3 compared to previous cycles of PB

This cycle, PB grew to include ten districts and over 18,000 people, more than doubling its reach from the pilot cycle three years ago. This growth provides opportunities to observe continuing trends, as well as to identify shifts in participation and new insights about the experience of participants this cycle.*****

Continued Trends

Our previous reports on Cycles 1 and 2 of PB in NYC identified some trends that have remained consistent this cycle. PB continues to engage a diverse group of largely long-term residents, the majority of whom are women, and many of whom have not previously worked with others toward community change. Diverse community members continue to vote at higher rates in PB than in local elections. PB continues to provide media opportunities for Council members, and PB impacts public spending beyond the money allocated to the winning projects alone. These trends are explored further in the following pages.

- PB engages **long-term residents**.

> *"I thought I should probably try to get involved in something locally…[I thought it would be] interesting and enjoyable to begin to get more involved in this community in which I have been living for 40 years."*

(**District 39** Budget Delegate Interviewee 6)

> *"It is my pleasure to vote today because I have lived in the Far Rockaway Community for about 40 years and I would like to see the best of the best for my neighborhood that I love so much."*

(**District 31**, survey comment 39)

- ○ 74% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 69% of voters have lived in their neighborhood for 8 or more years. This is consistent with previous cycles (77% of neighborhood assembly participants and 68% of voters in Cycle 2; 75% of neighborhood assembly participants and 78% of voters in Cycle 1).

74% of neighborhood assembly participants and **69%** of voters have lived in their neighborhood for **8 or more years**.

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008–2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

- **More than half of PB participants are women.**

  - 60% of neighborhood assembly participants and 66% of voters this cycle were women. (Similarly 66% of neighborhood assembly participants and 62% of voters last cycle were women, and 64% of neighborhood assembly participants and 62% of voters in Cycle 1).

- Many PB participants have **not previously worked with others towards community change**.

  - 40% of neighborhood assembly participants and 68% of voters had not previously worked with others in their community to solve community problems. (This compares with 38% of neighborhood assembly participants and 50% of voters last cycle; and 44% of voters in Cycle 1 had not worked with others to solve a community problem).

  - 51% of voters were not members of civic or other community organizations.

- **Diverse community members vote at higher rates in PB than in local elections.**

  - 11% of PB voters identified as Asian, compared with 4% of 2013 local election voters.

  - 24% of PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latino/a, compared with 14% of 2013 local election voters.

  - 66% of PB voters were women, compared with 56% of 2013 local election voters.

  - 7% of PB voters were between the ages of 18 and 24, compared with 4% of 2013 local election voters.

  - 39% of PB voters reported household incomes below $35,000 per year, compared with 21% of 2013 local election voters.

- PB continues to provide **media opportunities for Council members**. As in previous cycles, participating in PB yielded media opportunities—both in traditional news outlets and online in blogs and social media—for Council members.

- **PB impacts public spending beyond the money allocated to winning projects.** As in previous years, Council members this cycle allocated their capital discretionary funding not only to those projects that were on the PB ballots and won, but to other, non-winning projects as well. Seven out of the ten participating

Demographics of PB voters compared to voters in 2013 local elections

□ Voters in 2013 local elections

■ PB Voters

4%	11%	
Asian		
14%	24%	
Hispanic or Latino/a		
56%	66%	
Women		
4%	7%	
Ages 18–24		

districts allocated money to non-winning projects, for a total of more than $2.8 million dollars. There is also precedent for Council members dedicating expense funds to projects proposed through the PB process but ineligible for funding through PB because they were non-capital. For example, in District 39, Council Member Lander has appropriated expense funds for a senior citizen center for a new dishwasher—a need that was identified through PB but did not meet the capital funding criteria.[45]

In addition to these allocations by individual Council members, PB is also starting to impact broader funding priorities. The fact that numerous PB projects sought to improve school bathrooms helped demonstrate demand for such improvements, contributing to successful efforts to add $50 million in funding for bathroom improvements to the Department of Education's budget:

> *"[W]e're starting to see the fruits of participatory budgeting (PB) in bigger ways as well. In past years, improvements to decrepit school bathrooms have been on the PB ballot. This year, in response to increased demand, the Council pushed the Department of Education to increase funding to improve school bathrooms across the board ... and we won a doubling of funding, from $50 million to $100 million."*[46]

(**Council Member Brad Lander**)

Notable shifts in Cycle 3

In addition to the continued trends highlighted in the previous pages, there were some notable changes in Cycle 3. PBNYC prioritizes the engagement of certain communities who are often disenfranchised or marginalized—such as immigrants, young people, low-income people, and people of color—and this cycle's data show an increase in engagement of those communities.

This cycle's research also demonstrated that PB provides an opportunity for participants, even those who were already engaged in their communities, to learn more about community needs. Interviews also showed that, through engagement with PB, participants gained an understanding of government and the work of elected officials and/or city agencies. For many, this resulted in feeling less critical of people in those roles.

Barcoded and centrally scanned ballots also allowed for the analysis of ballot data for the first time. Available data included language of ballot, number of projects selected, and specific projects selected. Some ballots also came from known vote sites, and that data was also tabulated (for other ballots, the vote site was labeled unknown). Researchers further refined the data by categorizing vote sites and project types. This data allowed researchers to explore

Data show an increase in engagement of immigrants, young people, low-income people, people of color, and people with barriers to voting in traditional elections.

voting trends, which are included throughout the citywide and district findings.

This cycle saw increased engagement of populations that are traditionally disenfranchised.

The PBNYC rulebook, developed by the PBNYC Steering Committee, states as a goal:

"Expand Civic Engagement: Engage more people in politics and the community, especially young people, people of color, immigrants, low-income people, the formerly incarcerated, and other marginalized groups."[47]

This cycle's data show steps toward engagement of these populations, specifically:

- **An increase in PB voters of color.**

  - 62% of PB voters identified as a person of color, compared to 41% last cycle.

    —This is accounted for in part by the addition of two districts (38 and 31) with high percentages of people of color. However, returning districts 8, 23, 33, 39, all saw increases in PB voters of color.

  - People who identified as Black or African-American made up 24% of PB voters, double their percentage in Cycle 2 (12%) and slightly greater than their representation in the district populations (22%). This compares with 32% of voters in 2013 local elections who identified as Black or African-American.

    —This was driven largely by the addition of District 31 (where 69% of PB voters identified as Black or African-American). Returning districts 23, 33 and 39 had small increases in the percentage of PB voters who identify as Black or African-American, while districts 8 and 45 saw decreases.

  - People who identified as Latina/o made up 24% of PB voters, compared with 14% of Cycle 2 voters and 14% of voters in the 2013 local elections. This compares with 26% percent of the voting-age populations of the districts.

    —This was largely driven by the addition of District 38, where 45% of PB voters identified as Latina/o. Returning districts 8, 23, 33 and 39 all had some increase in voters who identified as Latina/o, and district 45 had no change.

62% of PB voters identified as a person of color.
Compared to 41% in Cycle 2.

○ People who identified as Asian made up 11% of PB voters, compared with 8% of PB voters last cycle. This is nearly three times the percentage of Asian voters in the 2013 local elections (4%), and compares with 15% percent of the voting-age population of the districts.

　—This change is driven by the addition of District 38, where nearly a quarter of surveyed PB voters identified as Asian. Returning districts 39 and 45 saw small increases in PB voters who identified as Asian, while districts 8, 23 and 33 saw small decreases.

○ People who identified as White made up 40% of PB voters, compared with 64% of Cycle 2 voters. This compares with 47% of voters in the 2013 local elections and 35% of the district voting-age population of the districts.

• **An increase in lower-income participants.**

○ Nearly half (49%) of PB voters had a household income below $50,000, compared with 32% of voters last cycle. The area median income is $63,000 for a family of four.

　—Returning districts 8, 23, and 33 all saw increases in engagement of voters with incomes below $50,000.

○ 21% of PB voters reported household incomes below $15,000, compared with 11% last cycle. This compares to 18% of voting-age people in the district populations who report household incomes below $15,000.

　—While this change was driven largely by the additions of districts 31 and 38, (which had 29% and 33% of PB voters in this income bracket, respectively), districts 8, 23, 33, and 45 all saw some increase in PB voters with incomes below $15,000. District 39 saw a small decrease.

• **An increase in younger participants.**

○ 13% of neighborhood assembly attendees were 18 or under, compared with 8% in Cycle 2. 6% of assembly participants were under 25.

　—District 8, 23 and 45 saw an increase in younger neighborhood assembly attendees. District 33 saw a decrease in assembly attendees under 18, but an increase in those under 25. District 39 saw a decrease in younger attendees.

21% of PB voters reported house-hold incomes below $15,000.
Compared to 11% in Cycle 2.

13% of PB voters were under 25.
Compared to 4% of Cycle 2 voters and 4% of voters under 25 in local elections.

- 6% of PB voters were between 16 and 17.***** This compares with 5% of the PB-eligible**†** district population.

- 13% of PB voters were under 25, compared with 4% of Cycle 2 voters. This compares with 4% of voters under 25 in local elections.

    —This increase is largely driven by the addition District 31, where a third of voters were under 25, and 20% were 16 or 17 years old. Returning districts 8, 23, 33, and 45 all also saw increases in PB voters under 25.

- **An increase in PB voters over 25 years of age with less than a Bachelor's degree.**

    - This cycle, nearly half of voters over 25 (49%) had less than a Bachelor's degree, compared to 29% last cycle.

        —Each returning district included in the citywide analysis (8, 23, 33, 39 and 45) saw an increase in voters with less than a Bachelor's degree.

- **An increase in PB voters who were born outside the U.S.‡**

    - 36% of voters this cycle were born outside the U.S., compared with 24% last cycle.

        —Much of this change was driven by the addition of district 38 this cycle, where 57% of voters were born outside the U.S.

        —District 8 also had a large increase in voters born outside the U.S. (48% compared to 39% last cycle). Returning districts 23, 39 and 45 also had small increases in immigrant PB voters.

36% of voters this cycle were born outside the U.S.
Compared to 24% in Cycle 2.

57% of voters in District 38 were born outside of the U.S.

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* Note that this age category was not captured in Cycle 2 voter data.

† Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available. We will refer to this as the "PB eligible" population.

‡ Note that country of origin data for neighborhood assembly participants was not tracked in Cycles 1 and 2.

- **An increase in PB voters who speak a language other than English.**

  ○ 15% of voters listed Spanish as the language they feel most comfortable using. This is more than double the percentage of Cycle 2 PB voters (6%). This compares to 24% of voting-age people in the district populations.

    —In district 38, 34% of voters listed their primary language as Spanish.

    —In district 8, 41% of voters listed Spanish as the language they are most comfortable using, compared to 30% last cycle.

    —All other returning districts included in the citywide analysis had small increases in PB voters reporting Spanish as the language they feel most comfortable using.

  ○ 4% of PB voters listed Chinese as their primary language, compared to 1% last cycle.*

  ○ 81% of PB voters listed English as their primary language, compared with 86% of Cycle 2 PB voters and 49% of the overall population of the districts.

  ○ 86% of neighborhood assembly participants listed English as their primary language, compared with 94% of Cycle 2 assembly participants.

    —This is driven largely by the addition of district 38, where 70% of neighborhood assembly participants listed English as their primary language. In addition, districts 23, 33 and 39 saw decreases in neighborhood assembly participants who listed English as their primary language. District 8 saw no change, District 45 saw a small increase.

  ○ 22% of centrally-counted ballots were cast in a language other than English (there is no comparative data for this statistic, as ballot language was not tracked in past years).

    —In District 38, 65% of the ballots were cast in a language other than English (24% in Spanish and 41% in Chinese).

    —In District 8, 29% of ballots were cast in Spanish.

15% of voters listed Spanish as the language they feel most comfortable using.
Compared to 6% in Cycle 2.

22% of centrally-counted ballots were cast in a language other than English.

* Note that in District 38, where 41% of ballots were cast in Chinese, there were challenges surveying Chinese-speaking voters. This is reflected in the survey data (14% of survey respondents listed Chinese as their primary language) and carries into this aggregate data.

- **An increase in PB voters who reported a barrier to voting in traditional elections.** More than one in five (22%) PB voters this cycle reported that they have a barrier that makes them unable to vote in traditional elections, compared to 14% last cycle. This includes a significant **increase in voters who reported that they were not U.S. citizens**, and thus ineligible to vote (14% this cycle, compared with 5% last cycle).

  - In district 38, more than a third (36%) of PB voters reported that they were not registered to vote in regular elections because they were not U.S. citizens.

  - Returning districts 23, 39 and 45 saw an increase in PB voters with a barrier to voting in traditional elections. Returning districts 23 and 39 saw in increase in PB voters who reported they were not U.S. citizens.

Cycle 3 interviews demonstrate that PB participants learn about community needs.

Interviews conducted with current and past budget delegates this cycle show that PB provides a unique opportunity for participants to learn more about the needs in their district:

> "[M]y eyes are now opened to the existence of a lot of needs that I wouldn't have realized."

(**District 31**, Budget Delegate Interviewee 7)

> "It made me more aware. We all know what our neighborhood needs, and you get locked into your neighborhood, so this made me more aware of the whole district."

(**District 39**, Budget Delegate Interviewee 5)

> "I was really able to see the needs [of] the community in a way I've never seen before...I didn't know how bad of an asthma cluster there was in public housing. I don't have kids so I don't know about needs at school. I don't have any relatives that live in senior housing so I didn't know about the issues they faced. So I got to learn about the needs of other populations in the district."

(**District 8**, Budget Delegate Interviewee 2)

More than one in five (22%) PB voters this cycle reported a barrier to voting in traditional elections.
Compared to 14% in Cycle 2.

14% of PB voters reported that they were not U.S. citizens.
Compared to 5% in Cycle 2.

PB participants gained an understanding of government and the work of people in government. For some, this resulted in having more respect for the job of elected officials.

In interviews, budget delegates discussed learning more about the day-to-day responsibilities of City Council members and the staff at city agencies, and the challenges that they face. For some who discussed this new understanding of government, it resulted in having more respect for, or feeling less critical of, people in these roles.

"It makes me less likely to criticize and throw stones. It is easy to criticize the work that politicians do, but now I have a better sense of the…complex set of issues. I have more respect for that process. I'd be less quick to criticize until I know more."

(**District 39**, Interviewee 6)

"It's given me more respect for the various government agencies and the work they regularly do. I wish they had more resources to do the things they need to do. I got the sense their operating budgets are tight…"

(**District 39**, Interviewee 1)

"It's given me more respect for [elected officials]. I already had respect for them. The contingencies they have to hear are daunting. Much more daunting than I gave it credit."

(**District 38**, Interviewee 4)

"I've always respected elected officials and still respect them ….The PB process was however good insight into elected officials' job and the challenges they face in terms of multiple demands and limited budget. I now have perspective and understanding of the budget process and continue to respect any politician committed to this process."

(**District 31**, Interviewee 7)

One of the five goals of PB in New York is the promotion of equity in public spending.

> *"Make Public Spending More Equitable: Generate spending decisions that are fairer and reflect the entire community's needs, so resources go where they are needed most."*[48]

While participation by diverse community members who are able to identify community needs helps make progress towards this goal, the PBNYC steering committee and Council districts have identified the need to equip PB participants with additional tools to evaluate need and equity throughout the process. This cycle, district maps were developed for use by budget delegate that showed racial demographics, income levels, public housing residences and more. These were designed for budget delegates to use when evaluating who in a district would benefit from a given project. In addition, a decision-making matrix was made available, which encouraged delegates to rate projects based on need, benefit and feasibility. When used, tools such as these help to concretize a focus on equity throughout the PB process. Additional ideas, such as indicating on the PB ballot the extent to which a project meets a community need or serves a particular population, can help further this progress. Assessing issues of need and equity remains a research goal for future cycles.
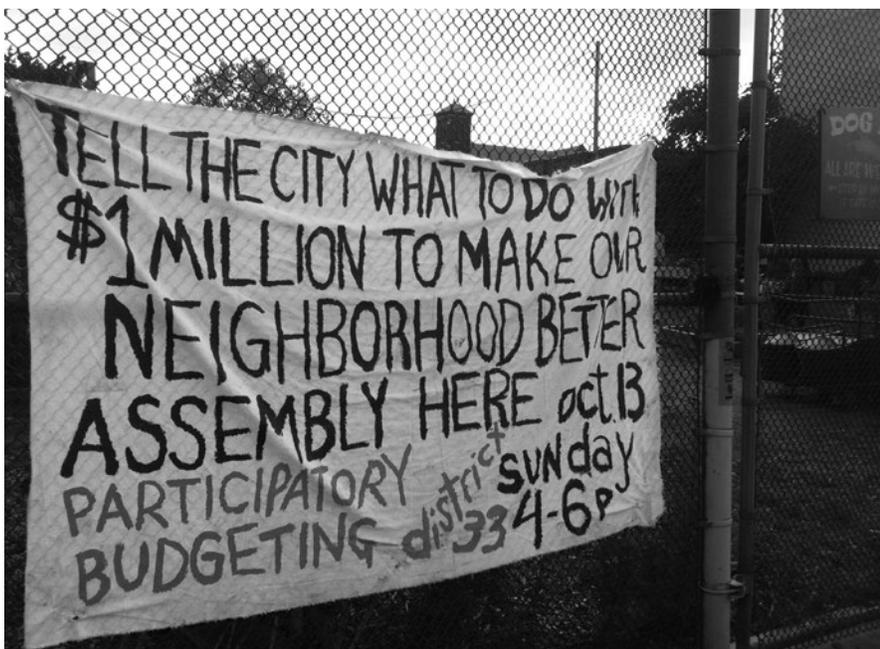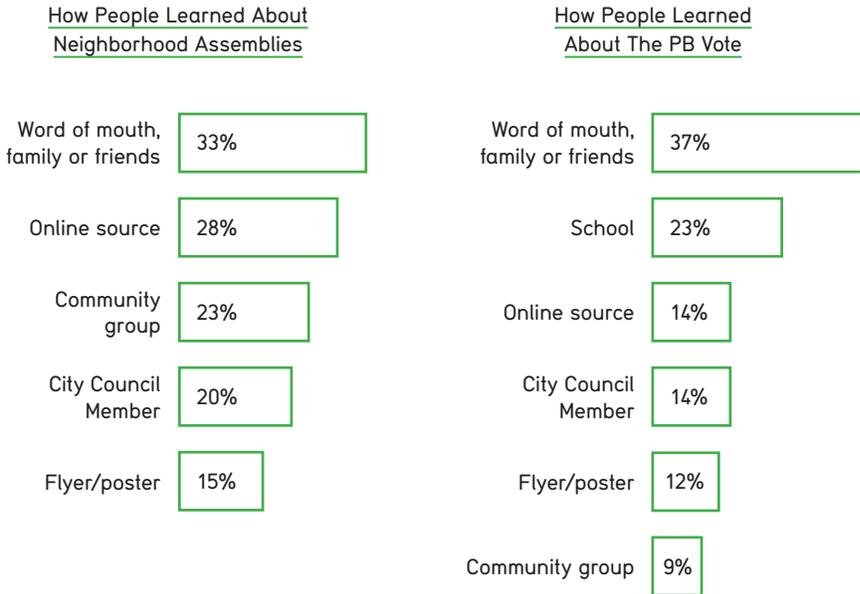

A banner promotes a neighborhood assembly in District 33.

Outreach and Engagement

How did people find out about PB?

Survey respondents at neighborhood assemblies and PB vote sites were asked how they found out about PB. The most frequent responses were:

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies	
Word of mouth, family or friends	33%
Online source	28%
Community group	23%
City Council Member	20%
Flyer/poster	15%

How People Learned About The PB Vote	
Word of mouth, family or friends	37%
School	23%
Online source	14%
City Council Member	14%
Flyer/poster	12%
Community group	9%

"A friend of mine invited me to a session, and I decided to keep on going."

(**District 8** Budget Delegate, Interviewee 6)

People were most likely to find out about both neighborhood assemblies and the vote through family, friends or word of mouth, emphasizing the importance of utilizing face-to-face contact and social networks in outreach efforts. Many participants also heard about PB from their Council member and from online sources. As explored below, Council members, as well as online engagement strategies, were more likely to reach higher income and White voters. During the vote, schools also played a major role in spreading the word about PB, and community groups continue to be an integral part of PB outreach and engagement. Both schools and community groups reached lower-income people, people of color and other communities whose engagement is prioritized.

Of those who heard about the vote through a school:

69% were people of color.
Compared to **62%** overall.

27% listed a language other than English as their primary language.
Compared to **19%** overall.

40% had a barrier to voting in regular elections.
Compared to **22%** overall.

* Note that "school" was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly surveys

Research demonstrates that **different outreach methods reach different communities:**

- **Schools and community groups reached lower-income people, people of color, people with barriers to voting, and people born outside the U.S.**

  ○ Of people who heard about the vote through a school:

    —69% were people of color (compared with 62% of PB voters overall).

    —27% listed a language other than English as their primary language (compared with 19% of PB voters overall).

    —48% were born outside the U.S. (compared with 36% of PB voters overall).

    —40% had a barrier to voting in regular elections (compared with 22% of PB voters overall).

  ○ Of the people who heard about the vote through a community group:

    —57% reported a household income below $50,000 (compared with 49% of PB voters overall).

    —67% were people of color (compared with 62% of PB voters overall).

    —24% listed a language other than English as their primary language (compared with 19% of PB voters overall).

    —43% were born outside the U.S. (compared with 36% of PB voters overall).

- **City Council members, social media, and online engagement strategies reached more White voters, higher income voters, voters whose primary language is English, and voters born in the U.S.**

  ○ Of people who heard about the vote through a City Council member:

    —64% earned $50,000 or above (compared with 51% of PB voters overall).

Of those who heard about the vote through a community group:

57% reported a household income below $50,000. Compared to 49% overall.

43% were born outside of the U.S. Compared to 36% overall.

—57% were White (compared with 40% of PB voters). 74% of people who voted at a Council member office were White.

—93% listed English as their primary language (compared with 81% of PB voters overall).

—79% were born in the U.S. (compared with 64% of PB voters overall).

—92% had no barriers to voting in regular elections (compared with 78% of PB voters overall).

○ Of people who heard about the vote online (through email, Facebook/twitter, or other online engagement):

—76% earned $50,000 or above (compared with 51% of PB voters overall).

—69% were White (compared with 40% of PB voters).

—96% listed English as their primary language (compared with 81% of PB voters overall).

—82% were born in the U.S. (compared with 64% of PB voters overall).

—93% had no barriers to voting in regular elections (compared with 78% of PB voters overall).

- **People across various demographic categories were likely to hear about PB through family, friends or word of mouth.** The following found out about PB through family, friends or word of mouth:

  ○ 36% of White PB voters and 38% of non-White PB voters.

  ○ 38% of those whose primary language was English and 36% of those primary language was not English.

  ○ 38% of those born in the U.S., and 35% of those born outside the U.S.

  ○ 38% of those with no barriers to voting in regular elections, and 35% of those with a barrier to voting.

These findings underscore the importance of a multi-faceted outreach strategy, with emphasis on face-to-face engagement strategies, and the use of community organizations, schools and other institutions that have existing relationships with the communities PB seeks to engage.

The use of technology in the PB process

"It is easier to engage community people by talking to them face-to-face. They feel they are important to the neighborhood."

(**Immigrant-serving organization** interview 21)

Technology can play important and innovative roles in PB processes—from online project idea collection and mapping, to computerized ballots, to the use of e-mail, social media, and text-messaging for outreach and engagement work. However, our data demonstrates that face-to-face outreach—through community based organizations, schools, and other community institutions—as well as social networks (family, friends and word of mouth), are crucial for reaching the diverse range of community members that PB seeks to engage.

Discrepancies in access to technology may impact the effectiveness of the use of online tools, such as e-mail or social media, to conduct outreach. An estimated 24% of New Yorkers live in a household that does not have a desktop, notebook or netbook computer at home.[49] Moreover, many of the communities whose participation in the PB process is prioritized are less likely to have access. Lower- income people, people with lower levels of formal education, people with disabilities, seniors, and people who identify as African -American or Hispanic are all less likely to own a computer, use the internet or have broadband, when compared to others in those demographic categories.[50] In addition, technological infrastructure, like fiber optics, may be lacking in some communities.[51]

These gaps in access, coupled with our findings, indicate that it is imperative to continue traditional face-to-face outreach, and to use technology to complement that outreach.

In addition, partnering with organizations that have expertise in the strategic use of technology can be a boon to PB, and existing resources focused on engaging underrepresented communities through technology—such as a recent report by Place/Matters and the Ford Foundation[52] or research by OpenPlans on civic-technology and low-income people[53]—should be consulted. Participating Council districts can also experiment with the use of other technologies, such as SMS messaging, to which a broader segment of the community may have access.

Technology can and should bolster the PB process in New York, but should not eclipse face-to-face outreach strategies, which are crucial to engage traditionally disenfranchised groups.

Citywide, turnout for the PB vote increased more significantly than for the neighborhood assemblies.

Neighborhood assembly participation increased by 7%, while voter turnout increased by 28%. Last cycle, attendance at assemblies decreased, despite the addition of four additional districts that cycle. This points to the need for additional outreach efforts at the assembly phase. This, as well as other possibilities for idea collection, is discussed in the recommendations section.

Most returning districts saw some dip in overall participation.

Of the seven districts that had previously participated in at least one PB cycle, all but two saw some decrease in overall numbers of PB participants. This speaks to the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts, continued contact with past participants to encourage repeat engagement with the process, and feedback loops about previously funded projects—suggestions about which are included in our recommendations section— that may help keep people engaged.

What changes did PB participants want for their communities?

PB voter priorities are measured in two ways: responses on the voter survey, which asks voters to select which category of project was most important to them, and ballot data, which reflects the projects people voted for.

- **Overall, projects related to schools and libraries were prioritized by PB voters.**

  - When asked to choose which category of projects they voted for was most important to them, 46% of voters selected schools and libraries.* The second most selected option was public safety (14%).

  - As measured by ballot data, 80% voted for a project related to a school or library. The second-highest category was parks and recreation (58%).

- **There were some district-specific and demographic differences in voter project priorities. For example:**

  - 82% of PB voters in District 8 voted for a project related to housing, according to ballot data. Notably, District 8 has the highest density of public housing in the city.

  - 89% of PB voters in District 31 voted for a project related to youth, according to ballot data. A youth organizing group, Rockaway Youth Task Force, was one of the anchor community organizations in District 31.

  - Of people who listed housing as the most important project they voted for on the survey, 80% earned below $50,000 (compared with 49% of PB voters overall).

  - Of people who listed housing as the most important project they voted for, 89% were people of color (compared with 62% of PB voters overall).

- **Data also shows that people were likely to vote for a project that is related to the voting site where they cast their ballot:**

  - For example, ballot data shows that 93% of people who voted at school site voted for at least one project that was related to schools or libraries.

  - Ballot data shows that 84% of those who voted at a public housing complex voted for a housing related project.

Of those who listed housing as the most important project they voted for, <u>89%</u> were people of color.
Compared to <u>62%</u> overall.

* Note that schools and libraries—as public institutions—were combined as a single answer option on the survey administered to voters, and are thus reported as a combined category throughout the report.

Projects on the ballots

Number of projects that were voted on citywide: 149

Average cost of projects citywide: $256,718

Most expensive projects:

$900,000

(Bioswales-Stormwater Greenstreet for Red Hook in District 38)

$900,000

(Bioswales-Stormwater Greenstreet for Sunset Park in District 38)

Least expensive projects:

$35,000

(Community information boards in District 32)

$35,000

(Gym Project for Martin Van Buren High School in District 23)

Projects on the Ballots by Type

Youth: **3**
Other: **3**
Public Safety: **8**
Transportation: **13**
Community Facilities: **13**
Housing: **14**
Parks & Recreation: **43**
Schools & Libraries: **52**
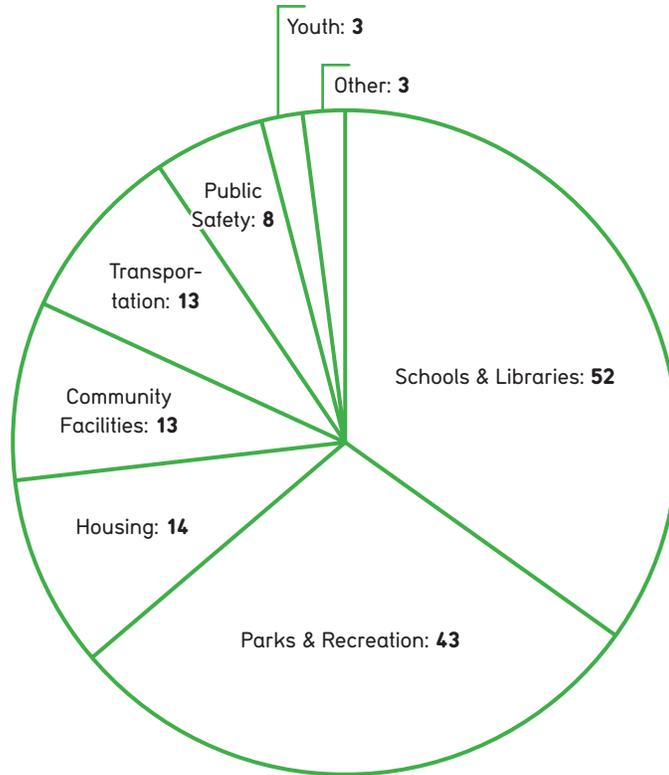
Winning Projects by Type

Youth: **2**
Housing: **3**
Public Safety: **5**
Community Facilities: **5**
Transportation: **6**
Parks & Recreation: **13**
Schools & Libraries: **21**
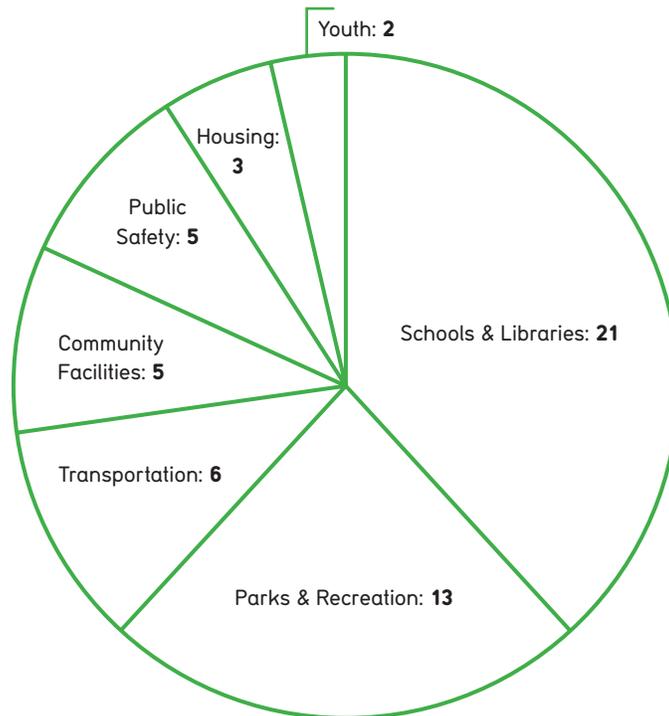
* Note that the categories of winning projects are derived from the categories used on the PB ballots.

Additionally Funded Projects

In addition to funding projects that won the PB vote, seven participating Council members also dedicated funds to projects that were on the PB ballots but did not win. This indicates the additional benefits that PB can bring beyond those projects that win the vote.

Project	District	Cost
Lexington Houses: New Fridges & Stoves	5th	$430,000
Robbins Plaza: ADA Access	5th	$45,000
Robbins Plaza: New Fridges & Stoves	5th	$45,000
Robbins Plaza: Security System Upgrade	5th	$250,000
Greener Stanley Isaacs & Holmes Towers: New Gardens	5th	$150,000
A Safer Library: NYPL 67th Street Branch Security System	5th	$40,000
A Greener Ruppert Park: New Watering System	5th	$100,000
Cleaner Parks: Maintenance Machine	5th	$65,000
Bus Time: M31 Downtown & Westbound Stops In-District	5th	$340,000
Technology for Schools	8th	$250,000
Security Cameras for Betances Houses	8th	$150,000
Bellerose Reading Garden at Bellerose Playground	23rd	$500,000
Weight Room Upgrade at Far Rockaway Educational Campus	31st	$150,000
Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow – Computer Lab	33rd	$50,000
12 Electronic "Bus Location" Signs at B67/69 Stops	39th	$240,000
East Flatbush's First Culinary Roof Top Farm	45th	$50,000
Total		$2,855,000

Winning projects citywide

Total overall funds allocated to all winning projects: $14,532,785

Number of winning projects: 55

Average cost of a winning project: $264,232

Most expensive winning project: $682,000

(Park improvements to Bayswater Park in District 31)

Least expensive winning project: $36,000

(Computer technology for Seniors in District 45)

Immigrant Participants

The PB process in New York prioritizes the involvement of immigrants as one of a number of traditionally disenfranchised groups. By extending eligibility to non-citizens, PB provides a civic engagement opportunity for many who are excluded from municipal elections in the city (both documented non-citizen residents and undocumented community members barred from voting in New York City elections). This access, in many districts coupled with targeted outreach, the provision of translated materials, and interpretation at meetings has helped to engage immigrant participants.

This cycle, more than one third of PB voters (36%) were born outside of the U.S., compared with 24% last cycle. This moves PB closer to representing the population of the participating districts, in which 49% of people are foreign-born. In addition, 14% of PB voters this cycle reported that they were not U.S. citizens, compared with 5% last cycle. Much of this change was driven by district 38, where 57% of voters were born outside the U.S., and more than a third (36%) reported that they were not U.S. citizens. Returning districts 8, 23, 39 and 45 saw increases in PB voters born outside of the U.S., and returning Districts 23 and 39 saw an increase in voters who reported they were not U.S. citizens.

36% of PB voters were born outside of the U.S.
Compared to **24%** in Cycle 2.

14% of PB voters this cycle were not U.S. citizens.

Jimmy Li, Director at Brooklyn Asian Communities Empowerment (BRACE), at the PB vote.

Immigrant Participation in PB: An Advocate's Perspective

Jimmy Li is currently the Director at Brooklyn Asian Communities Empowerment (BRACE). Previously, he was the Family Services Coordinator for the Chinese American Planning Council. Focused on the Chinese community in District 38, Li supported the process in multiple ways, from translating materials to helping to organize a neighborhood assembly to conducting outreach and helping to staff vote sites.

Li underscores the fact that PB is a **unique opportunity for civic engagement by non-citizens**. In fact, such opportunities are so rare that many community members he outreached were initially skeptical:

"Well, at first they could not believe it. Either they [had] Green Cards or they had some other sort of status, and they'd say 'Wow, are you serious, I can tell our leaders our concerns and they'll really pay attention to what we say or [how] we vote?' It takes a little time, and then…they were willing to give it a shot, and they were very excited."

PB provided immigrants, and particularly non-citizens, **the chance to learn about New York City's civic processes**:

"Well, I think [PB] really benefits our community, the Chinese and other immigrant communities. Because where people came from different backgrounds, different cultures, they might not know what elections are, or 'election' doesn't mean much to them, or it's not a democratic place…PB provides a great chance for them to learn about…American political structures.

"[The] community members who are not citizens, they came, and they talked and they participated, and they learned. For example, most people in the community don't know, don't understand what a hearing is, like a public hearing, and the neighborhood assembly was the first time ever for them and they found it very fun, and expos as well, and voting."

PB was also an entry-point for engagement with some community members, providing a **forum for community building**:

"[A] lot of them, they told us a lot of different stories, their life stories, their experiences, and through PB not only [did] they give us what they want for the communities, but also they shared their stories with us."

Li observed that PB could lead to **increased civic engagement in regular elections**:

"I think it gives them more confidence, more confidence to vote. When PB announced the results, that the project they want,

"I am very proud and happy to have been able to vote at the school today, despite not being a U.S. citizen."

District 39,
Survey Comment 44

those projects won in the process, a lot of people say 'Wow, our vote really counts.' And then some of them, when they are citizens…they encourage our people to vote.

"Some of them they participated from neighborhood assemblies all the way to voting, so they like it a lot, they learn, and they say 'I will tell my kids, I should [tell] my kids to vote, urge them to vote.' So it is a positive influence on the immigrant community, because that's how democracy starts, and how they learn the democratic ways of voicing concerns.

"PB opens the doors for the immigrants to get involved, to be involved in the political process, and to help the community become a better one."

In additional interviews with immigrant-serving organizations, several **key components of immigrant engagement were highlighted**:

- Partnering with community-based organizations, religious centers, and other community institutions that have established relationships with immigrant communities.

- Creating and utilizing translated materials.

- Providing interpretation at meetings and/or holding meetings in languages other than English.

- Promoting PB in ethnic media.

- Conducting person-to-person outreach in the appropriate language(s).

- Getting the word out about PB in public sites, such as parks or subway stations, in communities with many immigrants. This includes both conducting outreach and setting up mobile vote sites in these locations.

- Ensuring it is immediately clear (through signs and in outreach) that citizenship status is not a barrier to voting.

- Providing resources to support participation.

Opportunities for non-citizen civic engagement in New York City—PB as one piece of the puzzle

PB provides a significant new civic engagement opportunity for non-citizens who are legally barred from participating in regular elections. Data show that non-citizens participate in PB, and feel excited about such an opportunity. PB provides an opportunity for non-citizens to engage meaningfully with elected officials and to exercise genuine decision-making power over issues impacting themselves and their communities.

There are other opportunities for increased inclusion of non-citizens in the civic life of the city. A recent law established the New York City Identity Card, a form of municipal ID, for which citizenship status is not a barrier.[54] This will expand opportunities for undocumented immigrants and others, who need a government-issued ID to pursue housing, banking, job applications and more.* This new ID card could and should also serve as a viable form of voting ID for future PBNYC cycles.

Additionally, a proposed New York City bill seeks to extend voting rights to lawfully-present non-citizen residents in New York City. Backed by the Coalition to Expand Voting Rights, this legislation would open local election voting to an estimated 1.3 million immigrants who are legally residing in the city, paying taxes, and participating in civic life, but are ineligible to vote.[55] During the last legislative session, the bill was supported by a majority of the Council's members. If passed in the current session,† the bill would significantly expand civic engagement opportunities for community members who, PB has demonstrated, are eager to participate in civic life.

* Some concerns have been raised that the information obtained at the time of application for the card, which will be stored for up to two years by the City, may result in information about non-citizen New Yorkers being made available to the police or federal immigration officers. There is room for improvement to ensure that participating New Yorkers are sufficiently protected.
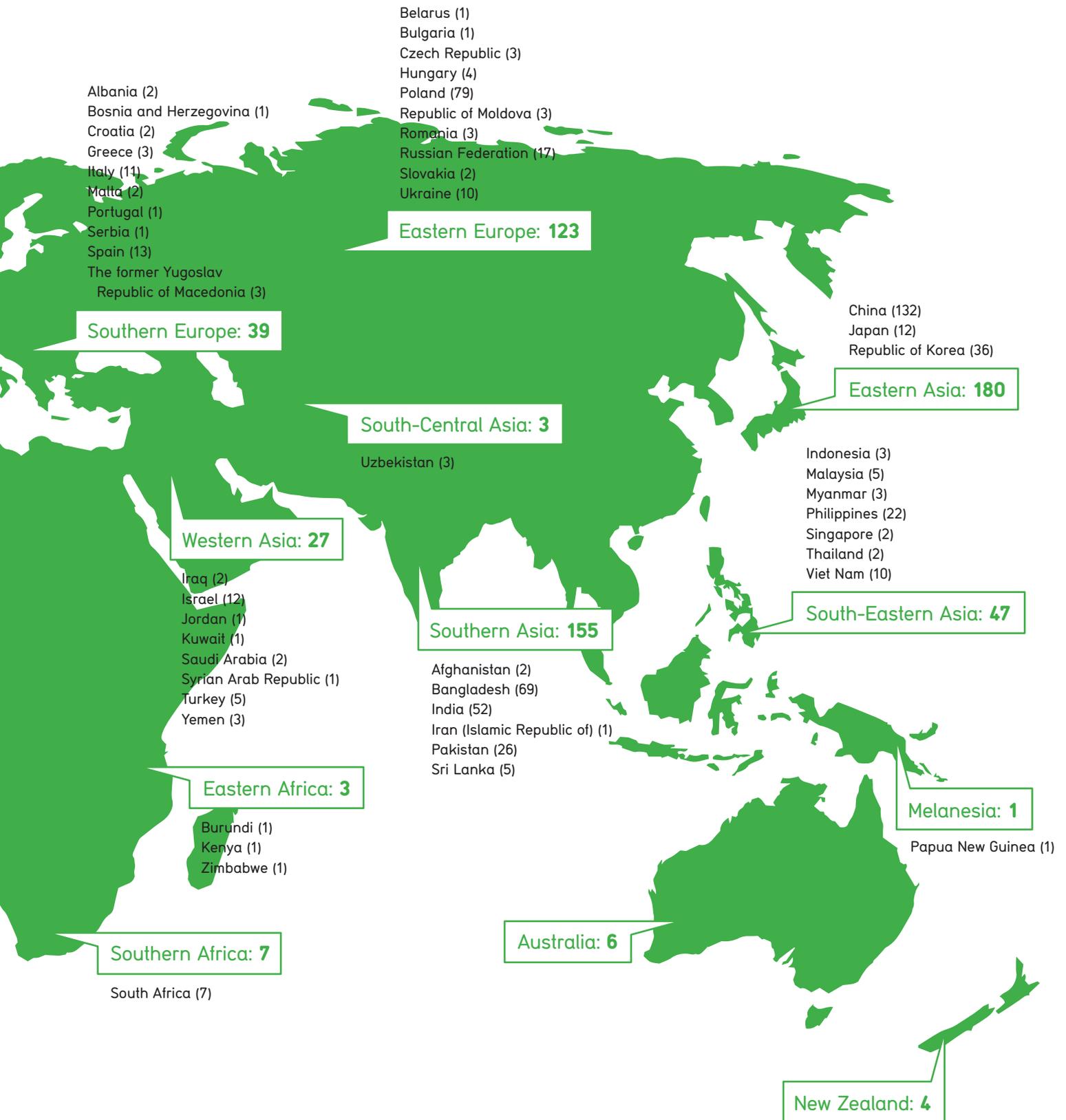
† As of this report writing, the bill has not yet been reintroduced. For updates, visit the website of the Coalition to Expand Voting Rights: http://www.ivotenyc.org/

Countries of origin for PB voters

Denmark (2)
Finland (1)
Iceland (2)
Ireland (13)
Latvia (1)
Sweden (10)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (39)

Northern Europe: **68**

Canada: 45

Austria (2)
Belgium (4)
France (3)
Germany and Germany (US Military Base) (33)
Netherlands (8)
Switzerland (3)

United States of America: 5,038

Antigua and Barbuda (4)
Aruba (1)
Barbados (19)
Cuba (9)
Curacao (1)
Dominican Republic (100)
Grenada (5)
Haiti (45)

Western Europe: **53**

Northern Africa: **5**

Egypt (2)
Morocco (3)

Caribbean: **584**

Jamaica (91)
Puerto Rico (231)
Saint Kitts and Nevis (1)
Saint Lucia (5)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (6)
Trinidad and Tobago (58)
United States Virgin Islands (5)

Central America: **280**

Belize (1)
Costa Rica (2)
El Salvador (37)
Guatemala (16)
Honduras (35)
Mexico (175)
Nicaragua (4)
Panama (10)

Western Africa: **19**

Cote d'Ivoire (1)
Gambia (1)
Ghana (3)
Guinea (2)
Liberia (1)
Nigeria (8)
Senegal (2)
Togo (1)

South America: **214**

Argentina (4)
Bolivia (2)
Brazil (11)
Chile (3)
Colombia (19)
Ecuador (50)
Guyana (101)
Peru (18)
Venezuela (Bolivian Republic of) (6)

This map reflects the countries of origin of PB voters as listed on the PB voter survey.
Geographical regions and country names conform to the United Nations classifications:
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm

Belarus (1)
Bulgaria (1)
Czech Republic (3)
Hungary (4)
Poland (79)
Republic of Moldova (3)
Romania (3)
Russian Federation (17)
Slovakia (2)
Ukraine (10)

Eastern Europe: 123

Albania (2)
Bosnia and Herzegovina (1)
Croatia (2)
Greece (3)
Italy (11)
Malta (2)
Portugal (1)
Serbia (1)
Spain (13)
The former Yugoslav
  Republic of Macedonia (3)

Southern Europe: 39

China (132)
Japan (12)
Republic of Korea (36)

Eastern Asia: 180

South-Central Asia: 3

Uzbekistan (3)

Indonesia (3)
Malaysia (5)
Myanmar (3)
Philippines (22)
Singapore (2)
Thailand (2)
Viet Nam (10)

Western Asia: 27

Iraq (2)
Israel (12)
Jordan (1)
Kuwait (1)
Saudi Arabia (2)
Syrian Arab Republic (1)
Turkey (5)
Yemen (3)

South-Eastern Asia: 47

Southern Asia: 155

Afghanistan (2)
Bangladesh (69)
India (52)
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1)
Pakistan (26)
Sri Lanka (5)

Eastern Africa: 3

Burundi (1)
Kenya (1)
Zimbabwe (1)

Melanesia: 1

Papua New Guinea (1)

Australia: 6

Southern Africa: 7

South Africa (7)

New Zealand: 4

Africa (country not specified): **5**
Asia (country not specified): **2**
Caribbean (country not specified): **7**
Europe (country not specified): **1**
South America (country not specified): **5**

No country specified: **276**

Public Housing Residents

The engagement of public housing residents, who are majority low-income and majority people of color,[56] has been a priority in many districts. Neighborhood assembly meetings and PB votes have been held at public housing developments, and targeted outreach to residents has been conducted. Proposed projects that would improve NYCHA developments galvanize both public housing residents and others in the community. For example, in District 33 this cycle, dedicated organizing and get out the vote work by public housing residents, the community-based organization Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE) and the Council office, led to a winning project that will allocate funds to reopening the Gowanus Houses Community Center—a vital space for the nearly 3,000 residents[57] of Gowanus Houses and their neighbors, which has not been operational for years.

Data show that:

- PB provides opportunities for public housing residents to advocate for improvements:

> *"I feel that not enough is done for NYCHA tenants there is a lot that is needed here like opening the community center."*

(**District 33** survey comment 30)

- Housing issues were a priority of public housing residents: 84% of participants who voted at a public housing development voted for a PB project related to housing (compared to 41% of those who voted at a senior center, the next highest proportion of voters prioritizing housing).

- PB provides resources to public housing developments:

  ○ Over the past three years, $3,800,000 have been allocated to 10 PB projects focused on NYCHA. This compares to $89,108,000 in Council member discretionary funding dedicated to NYCHA which did not correspond to a PB project.

  ○ Council members also dedicated an additional $2,370,000 to NYCHA projects that were on the ballots but did not win.

  ○ This cycle saw the most NYCHA projects win- 7 projects for a total of $1,795,000.

NYCHA tenants and PB: An interview with Carrie Gadsden

Carrie Gadsden is the Sargent of Arms for the Gowanus Houses Tenant Association, and a member of the community-based organization Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE) in Brooklyn. Gadsden was active in PB in District 33 in the past two cycles, conducting outreach to promote the participation of Gowanus Houses residents, and to build support for a PB project that would dedicate funds to reopening the Gowanus Houses Community Center (a winning project this cycle).

PB provides a concrete mechanism for NYCHA residents to articulate and advocate for their needs.

A prime example is the Gowanus Houses Community Center. Gadsden explains that the community center has been largely non-functional for over a decade, except for when it was revived during Hurricane Sandy as a site of supply collection and coordination for the relief effort. "[I]t's a central area and it's a vital area," she says of the community center. "It's a senior citizen center right now, just for part of the day. But when Sandy came, it was a localized center, where we were able—with FUREE and the help of the residents and volunteers— we were able to distribute supplies to people who needed it." The center's use during Sandy underscored the importance of a fully-functional space. "And that's what we need," says Gadsden, "We need that center open." Gadsden and others envision that a center open full time could serve multiple functions, as a space for programming, job training, information dissemination, a cooling center for tenants who do not have air conditioning, and more.

NYCHA had shuttered the center due to budget shortfalls, Gadsden explains, and PB provided an opportunity for residents to advocate for its reopening: "NYCHA said that they were in a financial crisis, that they were not able to open the center…[through PB]we were able to find another avenue to get the construction done."

Gadsden notes that **participating in PB provided an opportunity for NYCHA residents to work together**:

> *"[W]e sat down and decided as a group that we wanted the Gowanus center reopened. It was a community effort. It was an effort of the older people, the younger people, the working people—it was an effort of the whole community. We came together and voted for a project that they felt that they needed ."*

In addition, **proposing projects and voting in PB can be an empowering process**:

> *"People saw that their ideas and their thoughts were respected, and that someone was listening to them. We were given that choice and that power to say 'we want this.'"*

"[E]ven the young guys, they came out and they voted. And they were proud; they had input...And I hope that it shows them that they have power, and that they can vote, and that there are ways that they're important, that their vote is important."

PB did not only provide opportunities for NYCHA residents to connect with one another, but having NYCHA-specific projects on the district-wide ballot created **a sense of connection between NYCHA residents and others in the community**:

"[PB] made more people in the district aware of the problems that exist... that the playgrounds needed redoing, that the community center is closed. When they become more aware, they realize that people have problems and we're all in the same boat, we've all got problems, just different problems."

And when NYCHA projects win, tenants know that others in the district supported their needs.

"The whole district—we voted. Gowanus won, but the whole district had input, and the whole district said that this was important."

Best practices for engaging NYCHA residents include:

• Connecting with existing tenant-led structures, such as tenant associations.

• Partnering with community-based organizations that are connected to NYCHA tenants.

• Conducting face-to-face outreach and flyering in NYCHA developments.

• In outreach and at assemblies, giving examples of past NYCHA-related projects, to bring to life the potential that PB has.

• Holding neighborhood assemblies and setting up PB vote sites at NYCHA developments, to make participation accessible to as many tenants as possible.

The potential for NYCHA's own PB process

While the current PB process engages NYCHA residents, and project proposals have impacted NYCHA developments, there is also an opportunity for NYCHA to pioneer its *own* participatory budgeting process—setting aside its own funds and engaging tenants in a process of brainstorming, refining and voting on projects.

There is precedent for such a process within a Housing Authority: the Toronto Community Housing Corporation, the largest public housing provider in Canada, has, for 12 years, dedicated millions of capital funding dollars each year to a participatory budgeting process with its residents.[58]

Through its own process, NYCHA could more deeply engage and empower residents, generate new ideas and input about needs, and provide residents insight into existing budget constraints and spending priorities. A number of different funding pools, such as discretionary capital funds, discretionary operational funds, or Tenant Participation Activities funds could be utilized.

A PB process within NYCHA could build a deeper understanding among residents of the challenging budget-related choices and resource constraints that NYCHA faces, which could lead to additional advocacy efforts for federal and state investment in public housing. It could also build community among residents, strengthen relationships between residents and NYCHA staff, management and leadership, and provide a unique opportunity for residents to help identify and prioritize needs.

Carrie Gadsden (right), Sargent of Arms for the Gowanus Houses Tenant Association and member of Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE), conducting outreach for the PBNYC vote.

Youth

PB provides unique civic engagement opportunities for young people. Youth as young as 14 can participate in the neighborhood assembly process, and the voting age is 16. PB is an opportunity for youth under 18 to participate in a city voting process, as well as mechanism for youth of all ages to advocate for needs in their communities.

With the objective of engaging young people, several districts held neighborhood assemblies and mobile votes in high schools, as well as working with youth organizing groups.

This Cycle, 13% of PB voters were under 25, compared with 4% of Cycle 2 voters. This compares with 4% of voters under 25 in local elections. While returning districts 8, 23, 33 and 45 all saw increases in PB voters under the age of 25, the overall increase is driven largely by the addition of District 31, where a third of voters were under 25, and 20% were 16 or 17 years old. District 31 had a vote site at a local high school, and also saw the active participation of a youth organizing group—the Rockaway Youth Task Force—in the PB process.

13% of PB voters were under 25.

Compared to 4% in Cycle 2 and 4% in local elections.

The Rockaway Youth Task Force advocates to bring PB to District 31 during the November 2013 Council elections.

Youth

Youth and PB: An Interview with Silaka Cox

Silaka Cox is the Vice President of Rockaway Youth Task Force (RYTF), a youth-led nonprofit in Rockaway. RYTF was active in the PB process in District 31, advocating at candidate forums in the district to ensure the incoming Council member participated, helping with youth outreach and engagement, and working to develop a project proposal for the ballot. Cox served on the District 31 District Committee as well as the citywide PBNYC Steering Committee.

Rockaway Youth Task Force became involved in PB because of the **unique civic engagement opportunity for young people** that it provided:

"The reason we saw it as so important was because youth as young as 14 could be involved in the process. [Y]ou can't make policy decisions until you're a lot older, you can't run for office until you're a lot older...the fact that you can enter high school and you can start making decisions that affect you as a community member, and everyone else who lives in your community, was something that we really wanted to empower youth to be able to take part in."

Cox observes that **because PB provides an opportunity for youth to exercise real decision-making power, it is a more compelling form of civic participation than others venues in which they are merely observers**:

"[Y]ou kind of have tunnel vision a little bit because you're so limited in the decisions you can make at that age...Because, when you're older, you can vote, you can make decisions, you can choose to go to community board meetings, you can choose to go to tenant and civic and block association meetings, but when you're younger we don't really have much of a say, so you might choose not to go to those meetings because you might feel that your voice doesn't really matter. But with PB, you can be a budget delegate when you're young, you can be a district committee member when you're young, you can put together project proposals and meet with agencies and learn about the School Construction Authority and how that's the agency responsible for doing playground renovations and gym renovations and library renovations when you're in school. And you just learn so much about how government works and how the infrastructure of your community works."

Cox believes that **participation in PB as a young person may lead to increased engagement in regular elections**:

"[T]hey might only be 14 when they start in the process, but if they go through PB for four years, I really think there might
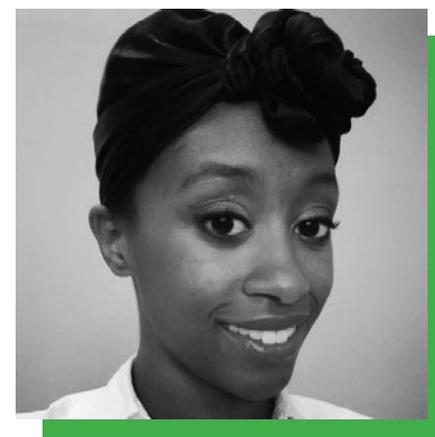
"It made me feel like I'm important. We never really get to participate because we're young."

District 31, Interviewee 1
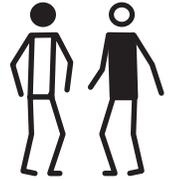
"I finally got to vote for something that I want."

District 31, Interviewee 4

Silaka Cox

be a correlation between someone participating in PB and someone actually being a prime voter once they become of voting age."

PB provided opportunities for learning and skill building for young people:

"They get a better understanding of the way the City Council works, how the city budget works, what capital money is versus what expense money is. They get a better sense of community. They understand how to talk to people and they develop interpersonal skills, public speaking skills, facilitation skills. They understand how to work in groups. They understand how agencies work and how vetting processes work. They understand voting and why it's important."

PB also provided youth-serving organizations the chance to involve young people in civic activities:

"[Organizations] may not always know how best to involve the youth in their programs to make bigger community decisions and understanding their voice in civic participation. So the fact that they were able to introduce this to their program participants and say 'This is something you can be involved in to be a more active member of your district and your community this year' was something that we saw that was really, really great."

Cox outlined a number of **recommendations for involving youth in the PB process**, including:

- Partnering with community based organizations, afterschool programs and other community institutions that work with young people.

- Introducing PB to students in schools at the beginning of the school year, and building it in to academic programming.

- Conducting outreach in schools, after school programs, recreation centers and other youth-serving spaces. When possible, enlisting leaders in those institutions to help with outreach efforts.

- Involving young people in outreach efforts, including face-to-face outreach, flyering, and phone banking.

- Ensure that language used in outreach and engagement, training materials and presentations is accessible.

Citywide Summary

Citywide data from the third cycle of Participatory Budgeting in New York show that several major trends in participation that were observed in past years continued this cycle. PB continued to engage a diverse cross-section of New Yorkers, mainly long term residents, more than half of whom are women, and many of whom have not previously worked with others toward community change. As in past cycles, diverse groups of community members voted in PB at higher rates than in the local elections. PB also continued to provide media opportunities for Council members. In keeping with past trends, many Council members allocated money not only to winning PB projects, but to other projects from the ballots as well—demonstrating PB's potential for impact on public spending beyond winning projects. The potential for PB to influence other public budgets is also emerging, with an increase in the School Construction Authority's budget for school bathroom repairs resulting in part from the fact that numerous proposed PB projects indicated the need for such funding.

Research this cycle also identified some shifts in participation and explored new research questions, many of which demonstrate progress toward the five goals identified by the PBNYC steering committee. Some shifts were driven in part by the addition of two new districts—31 and 38—but returning districts also saw changes in participation.

This includes:

- **PB Goal: Open Up Government**
  Allow residents a greater role in spending decisions, and inspire increased transparency in New York City government.

  ○ In addition to engaging thousands of New Yorkers in making decisions about the budget, research demonstrates that PB participants learn more about the role of government officials which, for some, translated into increased respect for people in government.

- **PB Goal: Expand Civic Engagement**
  Engage more people in politics and the community, especially young people, people of color, immigrants, low-income people, the formerly incarcerated, and other marginalized groups.

  ○ This cycle saw increased participation by many traditionally marginalized or disenfranchised groups, whose engagement is prioritized by PBNYC. This included increase in participation by lower income people, people of color, immigrants, those whose primary language is not English, young people and adults with lower levels of formal education.

- **PB Goal: Develop New Community Leaders**
  Build the skills, knowledge, and capacity of community members.

    ○ In-depth interviews focused on immigrant participation, youth participation, and public housing residents demonstrated that PB provides opportunities for leadership by diverse community members.

- **PB Goal: Build Community**
  Inspire people to more deeply engage in their communities, and to create new networks and organizations.

    ○ As in past cycles, most PB participants (68% of PB voters) reported that they had never worked with others in their community toward community change, indicating that PB provides a unique collaborative opportunity. In addition, research this cycle demonstrated that PB participants learn about the needs of their communities.

- **PB Goal: Make Public Spending More Equitable**
  Generate spending decisions that are fairer and reflect the entire community's needs, so resources go where they are needed most.

    ○ Documenting changes in public spending and measuring equity are ongoing areas of exploration for research. While participation by diverse community members who are able to identify community needs helps make progress towards the goal of making spending more equitable, additional tools for PB participants to evaluate need and equity throughout the process have been developed. This includes district profiles that include maps with racial demographics, income levels and more for use by budget delegates, and a decision making matrix which encourages delegates to evaluate need, benefit and feasibility of projects. Additional opportunities for promoting a focus on equity are included in recommendations section of this report. The potential for PB to influence public spending beyond individual Council member allocations is illustrated by the increase in funding for school bathrooms in the budget of the Department of Education, which came in part as a result of PB project proposals for bathroom repairs and upgrades demonstrating the need for these funds. The extent to which PB influences budget priorities and spending in other ways is an area for future inquiry.

This cycle of PB engaged more than 18,000 New Yorkers, including 16,642 voters, making it the largest participatory budgeting vote in the United States to date.[59] PB voter turnout increased more significantly than turnout for neighborhood assemblies, pointing to the need for early concerted outreach for the PB process, and the resources to support it, as well as additional mechanisms for idea collection, which are explored in the recommendations section.

The following sections include more detailed data about PB in each participating district, exploring the demographics of participants, how people heard about PB in each district, and a look at which projects were on the ballot and which ultimately won. A winning project from each district is highlighted. For those districts who participated in Cycle 2 of PB (2012–2013) there is a comparison of Cycles 2 and 3.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Expansion and Institutionalization: A Pivotal Moment for Participatory Budgeting in NYC

Thanks to the success of PB over the past three cycles, and the advocacy of New Yorkers and community organizations, PB is poised to expand dramatically next cycle, with 23 NYC Council members committed to participating.[60] This expansion is coupled with some significant changes in the Council. Changes to the Council rules have transformed the distribution of discretionary funding, known as *Member Items*, the money currently used in the PB process. These funds were previously distributed according to the Speaker's preferences. Discretionary funds will now be distributed either equally among Council members to allocate (based on a publically available formula), or may also be distributed based on a formula that uses data about differences between districts (such as the poverty level of the districts) to guide the distribution of funds.[61] This reform will allow Council members to predict in advance how much discretionary money they will have, a fact that should make allocating money towards PB more straightforward. In addition, the newly elected Council Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito, who was among the four Council members who first brought PB to New York, has committed dedicated central city Council staff and resources to the PB process. This is the first time in the history of the New York City process that centralized resources and coordination for will be available.

The Speaker's office has committed the following resources to Participatory Budgeting for Cycle 4:[62]

- Centralized coordination of key components of the process, including dedicating Central Staff time and resources to assist with:

  - Coordinating the PB process through regular meetings of district staff,

  - Coordinating and delivering trainings for staff and volunteers,

- Coordinating press strategy around the process,

- Tracking district progress, and

- Providing guidance around project feasibility and tracking project implementation.

- Building tools and materials to train staff and standardize the process among districts, including an operating manual for district staff, centralized vote counting and other innovative tools.

- Creation of a PB fellows internship program to increase capacity in district offices.

- Boost outreach capacity during assemblies and vote for hard-to-reach populations via contracted CBOs.

- Technical assistance provided through a contracted organizational partner.

- Coordinating a Citywide Steering Committee that provides policy guidance for the process and opportunities for CBO involvement in PB.

This upcoming expansion and the prospect of ongoing central support positions New York to become a leader in the implementation of PB processes in the United States. It is a critical moment to institutionalize best practices and learn from previous experience. To that end, the following recommendations—derived from researcher observation, feedback in interviews and surveys, and the work of the PBNYC steering committee— are offered.

Recommendations

Provide and sustain central resources sufficient to support and coordinate PB as it grows. In addition to the resources committee by the Speaker's office, the following recommendations for the Speaker's office would ensure that PB in New York is sufficiently resourced:

- Dedicate at least one full time staff person to the coordination and implementation of PB centrally and one staff person per Borough.

- Advocate for new pots of money for PB, including non-capital discretionary funding.

- Provide additional centralized resources and in-kind support for common needs of district PB processes, such as interpretation, food, childcare, subway cards, mailers, etc.

- Cultivate and maintain relationships with community groups. Community groups are critical to the engagement of traditionally disenfranchised community members. These organizations should be included as collaborators when planning and implementing PB, and should be resourced for outreach and engagement work.

- Provide outreach contracts for organizations working specific populations (such as youth or immigrants) in each district, in addition to bundled across districts, so that local organizations that operate only in a single district can apply to support PB and boost the participation of the populations they work with.

- Facilitate communication and engagement with city agencies to streamline the project-vetting phase. In addition to serving as an intermediary between individual districts and the city agencies, the central office should encourage agencies to identify PB point people, hold information sessions for budget delegates, and develop handouts with the cost of commonly-proposed projects, as well as guidelines for determining whether a project is capital eligible.

- Provide ways for city agencies to coordinate larger-scale project proposals across districts.

- Recruit and manage a citywide volunteer corps for outreach, facilitation and research. Provide additional office operating resources for participating Council members to ensure they can hire sufficient staff to cover constituent service needs while also doing outreach and engagement efforts.

- Consider providing implementation resources to Council districts with "divided geographies" such as districts that span multiple boroughs, or have portions of the district that are geographically distinct and require extra outreach and engagement efforts.

Ensure that the PB process reaches, is accessible to, and promotes participation by traditionally disenfranchised New Yorkers, whose involvement in PB is a priority. One goal laid out in the PBNYC rulebook for this cycle was: *"Engage more people in politics and the community, especially young people, people of color, immigrants, low-income people, the formerly incarcerated, and other marginalized groups."*[63] To that end, participating Council districts should:

- Utilize multi-faceted outreach strategies, recognizing that face-to-face outreach and outreach by community organizations are critical for the engagement of traditionally disenfranchised groups, as research demonstrates.

- Ensure that outreach, neighborhood assemblies, and vote processes are accessible to non-English speakers, by providing translated materials, interpretation at meetings, advertising in ethnic media, and partnering with community organizations.

- Increase visibility, by advertising widely, such as in local media, radio, TV and bus ads.

- Continue to hold assemblies in locations that engage traditionally underrepresented communities.

- Establish as a goal that budget delegates should be more representative of the district communities, and develop outreach and recruitment plans with this goal in mind.

- Set up vote sites in locations that engage traditionally disenfranchised community members (e.g. schools, libraries, community spaces, subway stops, traffic hubs, public housing developments and senior centers).

- Provide resources, so that meetings can have food, childcare, translation and interpretation and Metro cards to alleviate barriers to participation.

Make adjustments or additions to the existing process, to ensure that as many people as possible can contribute.
Interview data, as well as the decreased number of participants in several returning districts, indicate that it would be helpful to find new avenues for people to participate in the PB process in

addition to ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. To that end, participating districts should:

- Provide opportunities to submit project ideas outside of neighborhood assemblies. E-mail, civic group meetings, community events, mail-in forms, parks and other public events and spaces should be used in addition to neighborhood assemblies to collect project proposals.

- Experiment with online voting, or voting via SMS, in interested districts. This should supplement, and not replace, in-person vote sites.

- Hold targeted, smaller-scale idea collection/delegate recruitment sessions at non-PB meetings of community organizations, churches, civic associations and other community groups. Venues for engaging traditionally disenfranchised community members should be identified and prioritized. These meetings could be led by Council member staff with the support of volunteers.

- Create smaller, specialized roles for budget delegates. Consider breaking down the process into modules that delegates can participate in for shorter amounts of time (e.g. community needs assessment; idea prioritizing; project proposal development; outreach/ publicity for the vote).

Create tools and templates to standardize processes and centralize information. As the PB process grows in the city, there will be an increasing need to share tools and information, and to have clear, standard templates for various components of the process, so that newly participating districts can learn from what has been done in the past. Thus, efforts should be made to:

- Standardize a format for project idea submission so that all ideas collected (online and offline) will be uniformly formatted.

- Compile all project ideas (submitted both online and offline) on an online map.

- Develop a standard Memorandum of Understanding for city agency representatives—or a similar mechanism—to establish from the outset what will be asked of city agencies and the timeline of the project development phase.

- Streamline news updates for city agencies on the PB process, vote, and winning projects. Data from interviews with agency representatives indicates that ongoing communication with agencies throughout the PB process, not just during the project-

vetting phase, would be beneficial. Systems for information-sharing with agencies throughout the PB process, particularly about which projects have made it to the PB ballots and which win, should be established.

- Develop a standardized process to collect project ideas from city agencies and Community Boards for consideration by budget delegates. If city agencies and Community Boards have received input about needs or requests for projects from the public, these ideas could be passed on to budget delegates.

- Develop a standardized process to solicit project ideas from other public institutions (such as the New York City Housing Authority, public libraries or schools) for consideration by budget delegates.

- Develop a rubric for agencies to use in providing feedback on project proposals that will encourage clear explanations of the agency feedback, possible revisions or modifications to the process, and streamline the feedback process for the agencies.

- Use standard PB ballots with scannable barcodes, to be counted centrally by the city, which would alleviate the administrative burden on individual Council offices and ensure that ballots are counted in a standard way that allows aggregation and comparison of the information collected.

- Attach the anonymous voter demographic survey to the PB ballot, to ease the burden of administering the survey as the process grows and to boost response rates.

- Create a searchable database of past project proposals so that delegates can learn from the work done in prior cycles.

- Create materials on alternative potential funds, local community groups, and resources for unfunded projects.

Promote a focus on equity and need. As articulated in the PBNYC rulebook, one primary goal of the PB process is to make public spending more equitable: *"Generate spending decisions that are fairer and reflect the entire community's needs, so resources go where they are needed most."*[64] To further this goal, attention to equity through the PB process in each district must be institutionalized. Participating districts should:

- Present information on district needs and demographics during the idea collection phase to inform idea creation. For online idea submission, a link to or overlay of maps on socio-economic

data or infrastructure data (e.g. transit statistics) should be made available.

- At neighborhood assemblies and other idea collection meetings, present and discuss community needs and then brainstorm ideas to address them, to encourage participants to contextualize their proposals in terms of need.

- Require delegates to use the project evaluation matrix which has been developed to rate projects based on need, benefit and feasibility.

- Facilitate district bus tours and fields trips for delegates to evaluate district needs.

- Provide delegates with maps and district profiles showing demographics and needs in the district to facilitate the evaluation of projects.

- Explore ways to designate on the ballot the extent to which a project meets a community need or serves a particular population. This could include identifying the demographics of the area in which the project is located, the percent of students in a school who qualify for free lunches, etc. A designation system comparable to restaurant menus rating systems for spiciness (e.g. 3 out of 4 chili peppers) could be used to designate whether a given project meets more or fewer community needs according to a certain set of criteria.

Encourage robust, consistent interaction between PB participants and government actors. There are many points in the PB process in which PB participants engage with people in government—from presentations by Council members and their staff at neighborhood assemblies, to working with city agency staff on project proposal development. Interview data shows that this interaction deepens constituents' understanding of those who work in government and, for some, this results in having more respect for the jobs of elected officials. Interview respondents also discussed the fact that the PB process works most smoothly when Council members and their staff are actively engaged. Thus, Council offices and the central Council staff should:

- Request that agency point people meet with cross-district issue committees (e.g. the Parks Department point person meets with all the Parks Committee representatives in Brooklyn) and make presentation materials available online, on the PBNYC website. Require agency presentation to include information on typical capital-eligible projects, typical budget processes, and

current priorities. This will streamline the process and allow for interaction among delegates from different districts.

- Develop an additional training for delegates on working with city agencies.

- Participating Council members should have identified staff people who will work on PB, to ensure that the process is sufficiently supported within the office. Council members and staff who are new to PB should take advantage of training on the PB process.

- Council members and/or their staff should remain engaged and accessible throughout the PB process. This includes but is not limited to maintaining clear and open lines of communication with budget delegates.

Develop feedback loops about winning projects from past cycles, to maintain excitement and promote accountability and transparency. Interview data and survey comments show that some PB participants want more information about the progress of past winning projects. Perceived delays in implementation and lack of information can lead to disenchantment with the process, and possibly to low retention rates. To that end, participating Council members and the Speaker's office should work to:

- Develop a searchable database of past winning projects that provides up –to-date information about their implementation.

- Provide updates at assemblies about past project progress.

- Generate buzz about PB projects that break ground—utilizing media, Council member newsletters, and other forms of communications. Consider publicly designating projects as "funded by Participatory Budgeting" with a plaque or other marker. Public visual markers could also be used to highlight projects that have been voted on but not yet completed (e.g. "PB project to come") so that community members could more immediately see what has been funded through PB in their neighborhoods.

Looking Forward

In the upcoming cycle (2014-15), Participatory Budgeting in New York City will undergo a major expansion—more than doubling in size, from 10 participating Council members to 23.[65] In addition, the PB process will, for the first time, be supported centrally by the City Council Speaker's office, with Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, one of the four Council members to pilot PB in the city, contributing resources and centralized coordination support. This expansion and dedication of central support coincides with a change in the Council rules which transforms the allocation of discretionary funding (the money currently used by Council members for PB). This money will no longer be given out at the discretion of the speaker. Rather, discretionary funds will now be distributed either equally among Council members to allocate, or may also be distributed based on a formula that uses data about differences between districts (such as the poverty level of the districts) to guide the distribution of funds.[66] This will allow Council members to know in advance how much funding they will receive, and thus better plan for participation in PB. This period growth and change for PB is an opportune time to examine trends from the past three cycles, review and add to best practices, and identify opportunities for improvement.
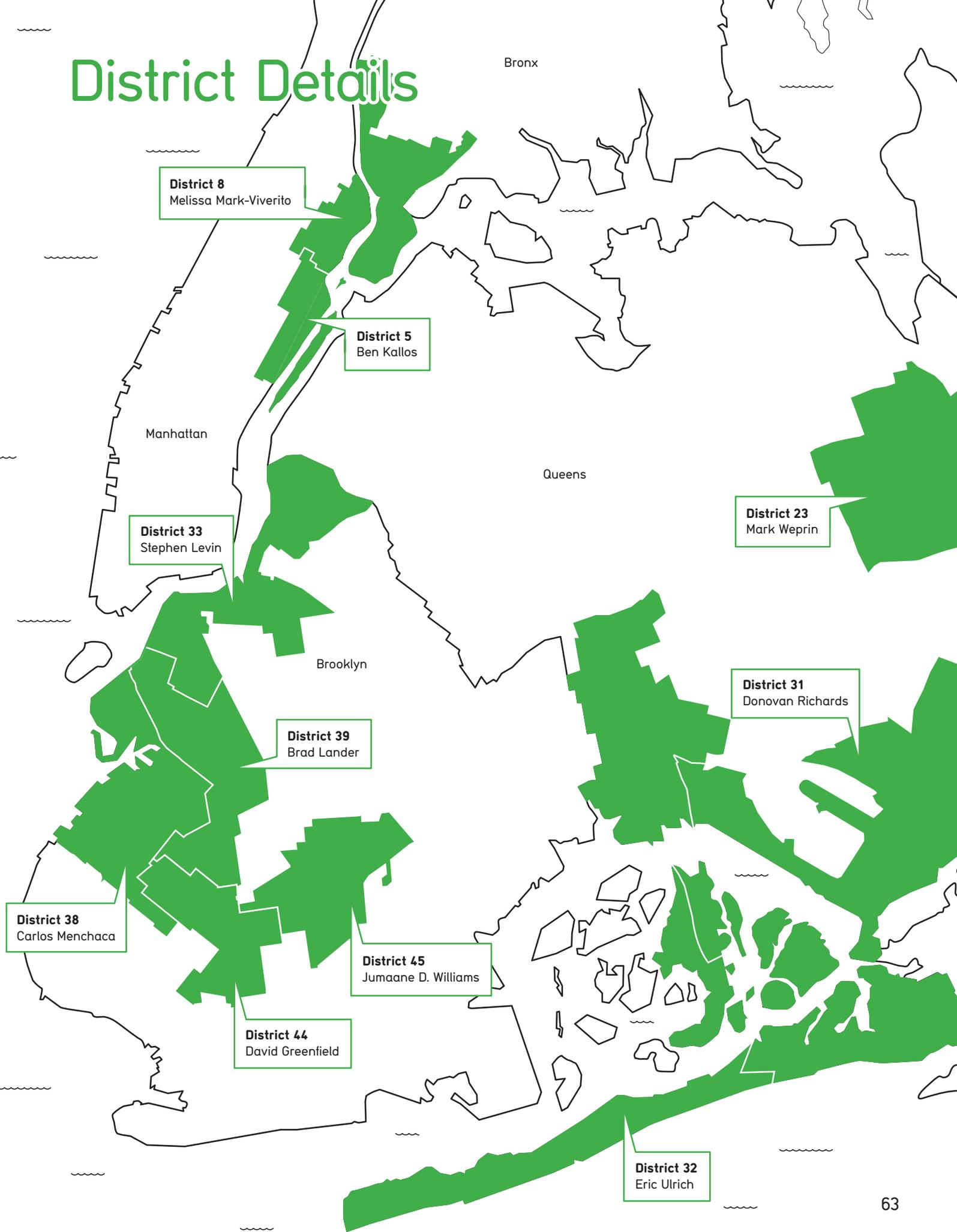
The past three cycles have seen the successful engagement of traditionally marginalized and disenfranchised community members, with participation by immigrants (including non-citizens), non-English speakers, low-income people, formerly incarcerated people, young people, people of color and more. These New Yorkers have come together to brainstorm ideas for their communities, refine those ideas into project proposals, and vote on those projects which end up on the ballot. They have learned about their community needs, and about the roles of government actors. Most PB participants report never working with others in their communities for community change before, and this unique form of constituent-driven budgeting allowed them to work together to make real decisions about public money.

Successful strategies developed over the past three cycles of PB—such as partnering with community groups to conduct outreach, holding meetings and setting up vote sites in targeted locations (for example, public housing developments) and providing translated materials and interpretation at meetings— should be seen as best practices for upcoming cycles. There are questions that remain for future PB cycles, such as how to best promote a focus on equity throughout the process, how to effectively transmit information about the implementation of past winning projects, and how to loop PB participants into traditional civic engagement processes. Our recommendations section outlines suggestions for future cycles that are drawn from past experience, as well as feedback collected through interviews and survey comments, and the work of the PBNYC steering committee.

This is an exciting time for PB in the city. Expansion of the process to 23 districts, coupled with centralized resources and

coordination from the Speaker's office, position PB to have a greater impact in New York than ever before. Drawing on research, evaluation and recommendations from the past three cycles, PB can continue to engage a diverse group of New Yorkers eager to share ideas, work together, and exercise real decision-making power over the way money is spent in their communities.

District Details

Bronx

District 8
Melissa Mark-Viverito

District 5
Ben Kallos

Manhattan

District 33
Stephen Levin

Queens

District 23
Mark Weprin

Brooklyn

District 31
Donovan Richards

District 39
Brad Lander

District 38
Carlos Menchaca

District 45
Jumaane D. Williams

District 44
David Greenfield

District 32
Eric Ulrich

63

District 5

Council Member Ben Kallos
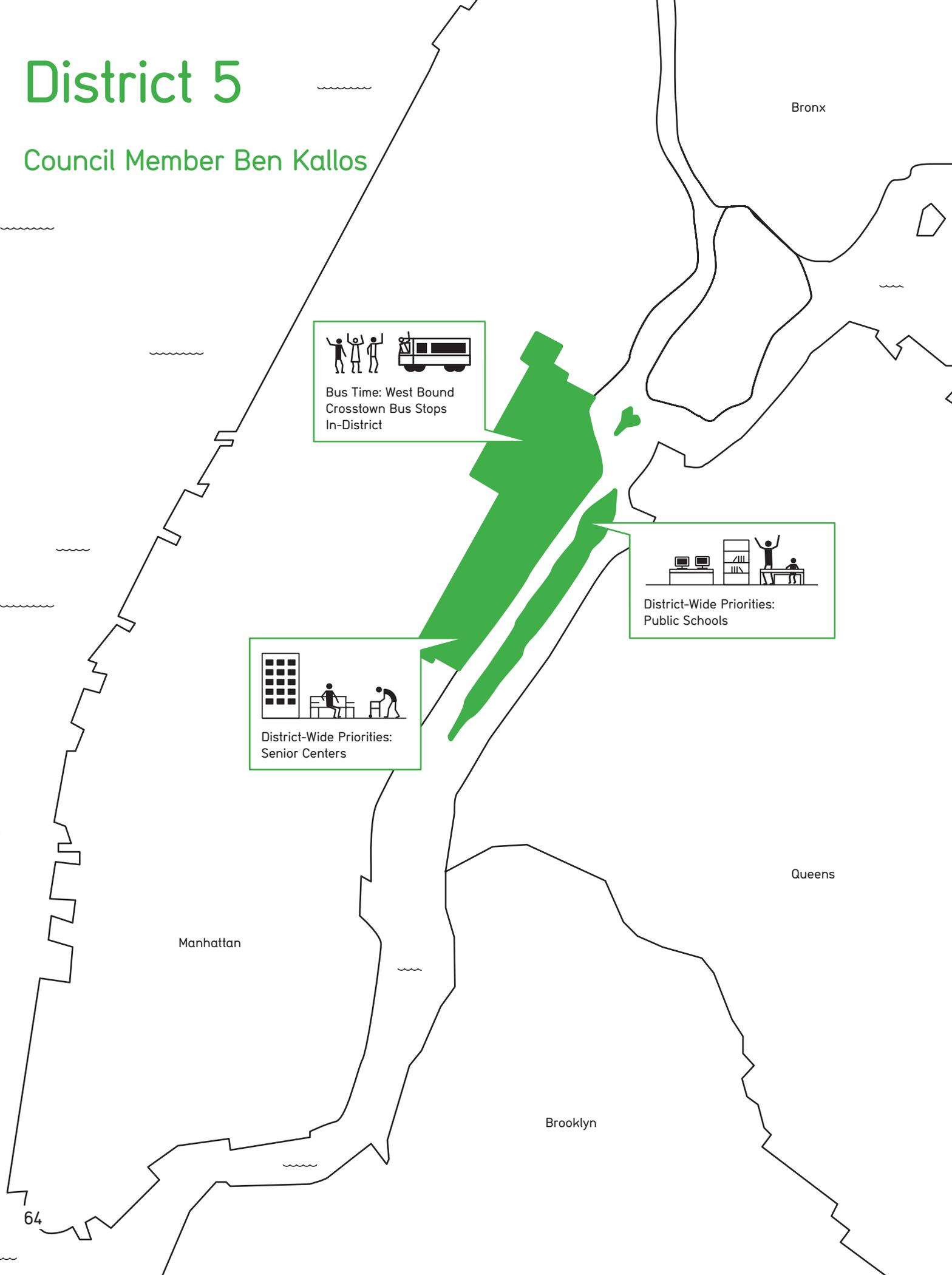
Bronx

Bus Time: West Bound
Crosstown Bus Stops
In-District

District-Wide Priorities:
Public Schools

District-Wide Priorities:
Senior Centers

Queens

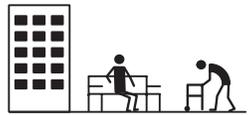Manhattan

Brooklyn

District 5

Council Member Ben Kallos

Council Member Ben Kallos' district encompasses the neighborhoods of the Upper East Side, Sutton Place, and Roosevelt Island. Just over three-quarters (76%) of district residents identify as White, 11% as Asian, 10% as Hispanic or Latino/a, and 5% as Black or African-American.* The majority of people in the district (72%) cite English as their primary language, with 9% indicating Spanish and 19% indicating another language. The district has high levels of formal education (76% of residents have a bachelor's degree or above), and 74% of residents report a household income of $50,000 or more annually, with 32% reporting $150,000 or more.

Council Member Kallos was elected in the November 2013 elections, and implemented a modified PB process in his district when he took office in January. Because the time period for neighborhood assemblies had already elapsed when Council Member Kallos took office, the ballot for District 5 listed pre-approved, not yet funded projects for the district, rather than projects developed by community members. The ballot also allowed residents to vote to set aside funding for the following PB cycle. In the next cycle, the district will move through all the stages of PB.

As a result of the modified process in District 5, limited data was collected, so findings on the participants in this district are not included in this cycle's report.

> *"Voting on how their tax dollars get spent allows people to support neighborhood infrastructure such as parks, schools and public housing ... Individuals should have a say in the decisions that affect their families, their streets and their daily lives."*[67]

(**Council Member Ben Kallos**, District 5)

District 5 Overall Population:
167,190

Number of PB Participants:
567

Neighborhoods:
Upper East Side
Roosevelt Island
Sutton Place

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* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.
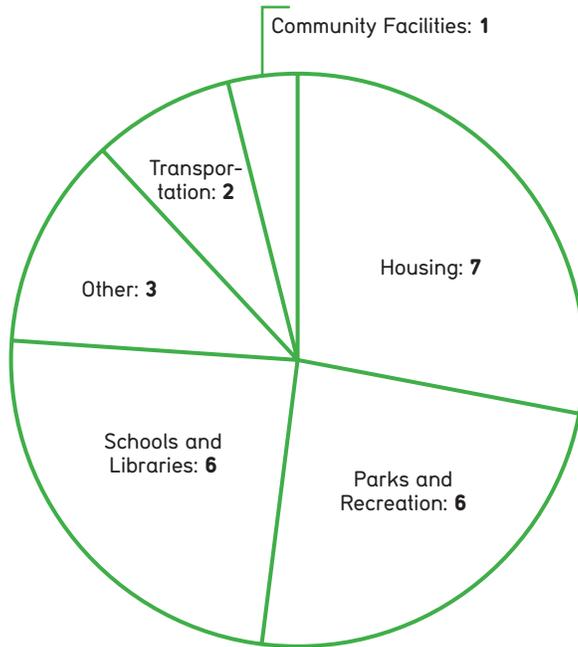
What projects made it on the ballot in District 5, and what won the vote?

25 Projects listed on the ballot

3 Projects selected by voters

Projects on District 5 ballot

Total Number: 25
Average Cost: $246,800

Community Facilities: **1**

Transpor-tation: **2**

Other: **3**

Housing: **7**

Schools and Libraries: **6**

Parks and Recreation: **6**

Winning Projects

3 Winning Projects: District 5

567 District 5 residents each voted for up to five of the twenty-five projects on the ballot. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
District-Wide Priorities: Senior Centers	163	29%	$250,000
Bus Time: West Bound Crosstown Bus Stops In-District	161	28%	$300,000
District-Wide Priorities: Public Schools	161	28%	$250,000
Total			$800,000

Additionally Funded Projects

In addition to funding the winning projects the Council Member also funded the following projects which were on the ballot but did not win the PB vote.

Project	Cost
Lexington Houses: New Fridges & Stoves	$430,000
Robbins Plaza: ADA Access	$45,000
Robbins Plaza: New Fridges & Stoves	$45,000
Robbins Plaza: Security System Upgrade	$250,000
Greener Stanley Isaacs & Holmes Towers: New Gardens	$150,000
A Safer Library: NYPL 67th Street Branch Security System	$40,000
A Greener Ruppert Park: New Watering System	$100,000
Cleaner Parks: Maintenance Machine	$65,000
Bus Time: M31 Downtown & Westbound Stops In-District	$340,000
Total	$1,465,000

District 8

Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito
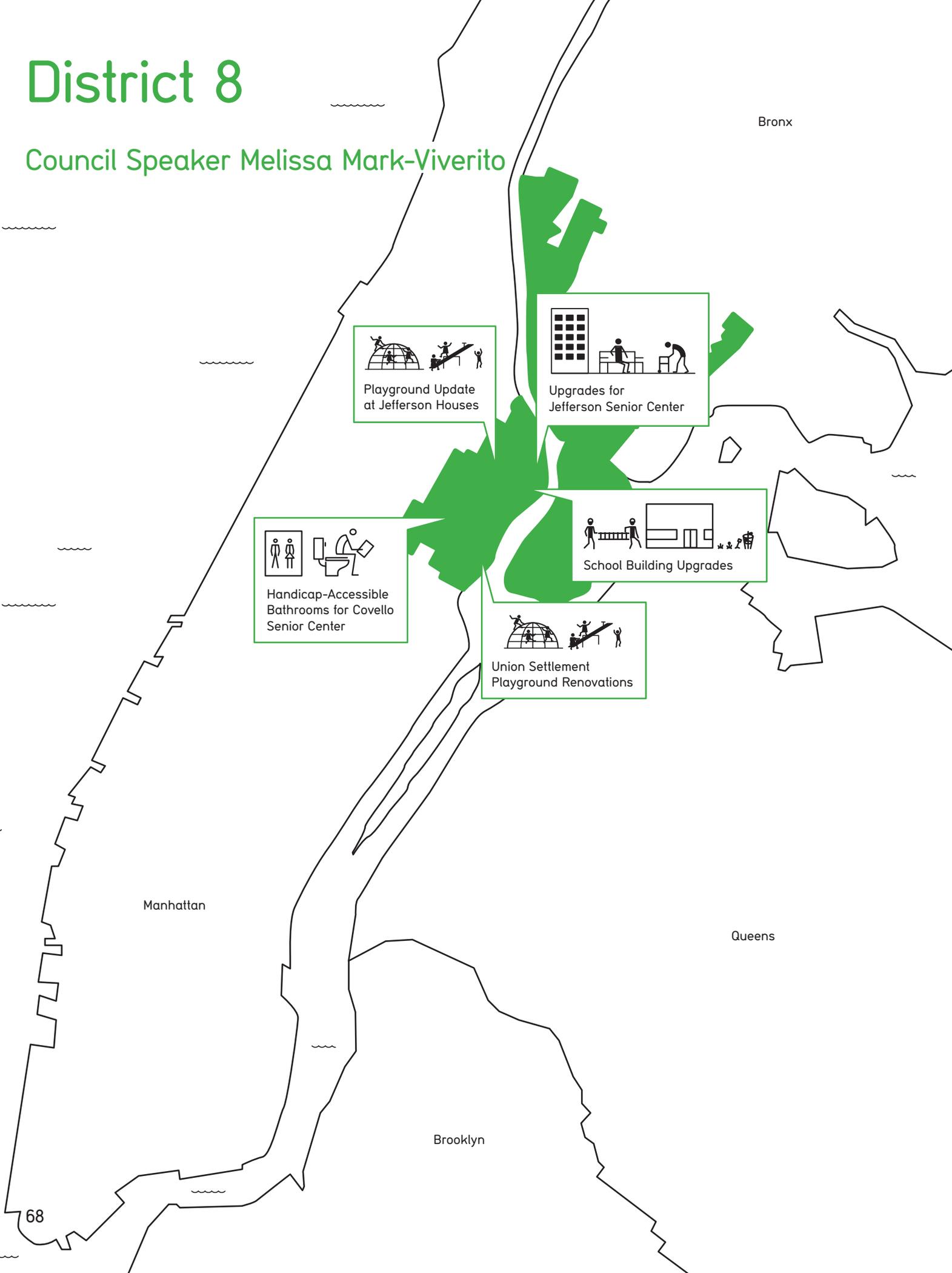
Bronx

Playground Update
at Jefferson Houses

Upgrades for
Jefferson Senior Center

Handicap-Accessible
Bathrooms for Covello
Senior Center

School Building Upgrades

Union Settlement
Playground Renovations

Manhattan
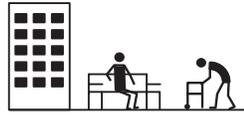
Queens

Brooklyn

District 8

Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito

Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito's district is one of only two Council districts to span two boroughs, encompassing El Barrio/ East Harlem on the Upper East Side, as well as parts of the South Bronx neighborhoods of Highbridge, Longwood and Mott Haven.[68] Mark-Viverito was elected to the position of Speaker in early 2014, making her the first Puerto Rican and Latina to hold a citywide elected office.[69] In her new leadership role in the Council Speaker Mark-Viverito has taken steps to provide central City Council support for Participatory Budgeting—the first time such support has been provided in New York City.*

District 8 underwent significant redistricting since the last PB cycle. While the South Bronx previously made up only a small portion of the district, redrawn district lines have cut out the West Side portion of the district and significantly expanded the included areas of the Bronx, with Bronx and Manhattan neighborhoods now making up a nearly equal share of the district. This redistricting has impacted neighborhood demographics and comparisons from this cycle of PB to Cycle 2 should be evaluated with these shifts in mind.

The majority (69%) of the district's population identifies as Hispanic or Latino/a and 26% as African-American or Black.† 6% of district residents identify as White, and 3% as Asian. The majority of district residents (55%) cite Spanish as their primary language, while 8% cite another non-English language and 37% cite English.

Speaker Mark-Viverito was among the four Council members to pilot participatory budgeting in 2011-12, so this was District 8's third cycle. As in previous PB cycles, District 8's targeted outreach, frequently in conjunction with community based organizations, led to the engagement of community members who do not often participate in politics. Immigrants, people with barriers to voting, non-English speakers, young people, low-income people, and people with lower levels of formal education all engaged in the PB process in District 8, many at higher levels than in past cycles. There was a small decrease in overall participation in District 8 this cycle, which may be related to

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District 8 Overall Population:
166,398

Number of PB Participants:
1,939

Neighborhoods:
Concourse
El Barrio/
 East Harlem
Highbridge
Longwood
Mott Haven[70]

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* See the section of this report entitled "A New Political Landscape for PB" for more.

† Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

the challenges of involving residents in the new portions of the district who were not aware of PB, and also highlights the need for ongoing outreach and engagement. The majority of the projects on District 8's ballot were for schools, housing and community facilities.

> *"Participatory budgeting helps engage New Yorkers with the Council by empowering community residents to make decisions about how City funds are spent….I'm proud to have helped start this important initiative and encourage all New Yorkers in participating districts to cast their ballots for the projects they would like to see funded in the year ahead."*[71]

(City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito)

Voters in District 8 review the options on the ballot.

Who Participated in District 8?

In District 8, PB Engaged 1,939 people, including: 223 neighborhood assembly participants, 50 budget delegates and 1,715 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

• A greater percentage of people who identified as Hispanic or Latino/a voted in PB this cycle (64%) compared with Cycle 2 (54%). This compares with 48% of 2013 local election voters who identify as Hispanic or Latino/a.

• People who identified as Black or African-American voted in PB at a lower percentage (25%) than 2013 local election voters (38%). This is a decrease in Black or African-American voters from Cycle 2 (31%).

• There was a small increase in the overall participation of PB voters of color (93%, compared to 90% last cycle).

• People of all races/ethnicities voted in PB at percentages similar to voting-age district residents.

Language and Country of Birth

• A greater percentage of people who listed Spanish as their primary language voted in PB this cycle compared to Cycle 2 (41% compared to 30%). This compares to 56% of voting-age district residents.

• A greater percentage of people who were born outside of the U.S. were PB voters this cycle (48%) compared with Cycle 2 (39%). This compares with 51% of voting-age district residents.

Gender

• Women made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (60%) and PB voters (69%). This compares with 55% of voting-age district residents.

1,939 people
(2,063 in Cycle 2, 1,632 in Cycle 1)

223
neighborhood assembly participants
(349 in Cycle 2, 680 in Cycle 1)

50
Budget Delegates
(60 in Cycle 2, 61 in Cycle 1)

1,715
voters
(1,770 in Cycle 2, 1,048 in Cycle 1)

64% of PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latino/a.

Compared to 54% in Cycle 2 and 48% in local elections.

41% of PB voters listed Spanish as their primary language.

Compared to 30% in Cycle 2 and 56% of voting-age district residents.

Voters reporting household incomes under $15,000

46% — PB voters in Cycle 3

9% — Voters in the 2013 local elections

35% — District households
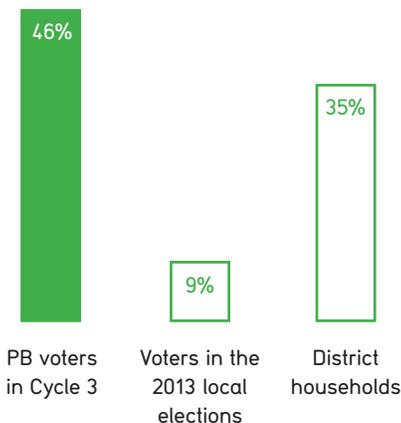
35% of PB voters over the age of 25 reported having less than a high school diploma.

Compared to 18% in Cycle 2 and 38% of district residents.

• Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters (69%) than 2013 local election voters (63%).

Income

• Nearly half of PB voters (46%) reported household incomes below $15,000 (compared to 41% last cycle). This compares to 9% of 2013 local election voters, and 35% of households in the district.

• Nearly three-quarters (72%) of PB voters reported household incomes below $35,000, compared with 68% last cycle. This compares to 86% of 2013 local election voters, and 63% of district residents.

Age

• A greater percentage of seniors (65 years and older) voted in PB this cycle compared to Cycle 2 (27% in Cycle 3 compared to 19% in Cycle 2). This compares with 13% of PB-eligible residents* and 28% of 2013 local election voters.

• A greater percentage of people under 25 years old participated in a neighborhood assemblies (32%) compared to PB voters (14%) and the PB-eligible district population (21%).

Education

• A greater percentage of PB voters over the age of 25 reported having less than a high school diploma in this cycle (35%) compared to Cycle 2 (18%). This is comparable with the percentage of district residents who report having less than a high school diploma (38%).

• PB voters had similar levels of education to the general voting-age population of the district.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 8?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 81% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB prior to voting. This is comparable to the percentages of PB voters last cycle who only participated by voting.

- 43% of neighborhood assembly participants and 17% of PB voters had participated in a previous cycle of PB. Last cycle, 34% of neighborhood assembly participants and 21% of PB voters reported they had participated in the previous cycle.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 26% of neighborhood assembly participants and 24% of PB voters were not eligible to vote in general elections. This compares with 11% of neighborhood assembly participants and 36% of voters last cycle.

- 14% of PB voters reported that they could not vote in regular elections because they were not U.S. citizens.

Working with Others in the Community

- 35% of neighborhood assembly participants and 73% of PB voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems before PB. This compares with 38% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 56% of PB voters last cycle who had not worked with others to solve community problems.

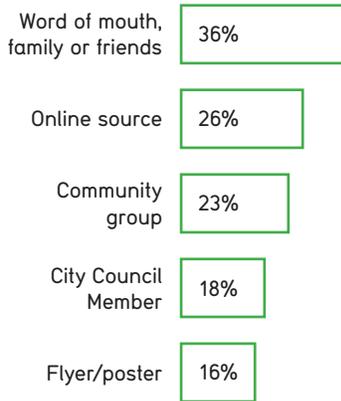> **35%** of neighbor-hood assembly participants and **73%** of PB voters had never before worked with others in their community to solve community problems.
>
> Compared to **38%** of neighborhood assembly particpants and **56%** of PB voters in Cycle 2.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 8?

People in District 8 were most likely to hear about both neighborhood assemblies and the vote through word of mouth, family or friends, emphasizing the importance of social networks in getting out the word about PB. Community groups were also an important component of outreach efforts. A greater percentage of people at neighborhood assemblies reported hearing about PB through an online source or through their Council Member than did people at voting sites. Flyers and posters also helped raise awareness of the process. During the vote, many people also heard about PB through a school.*

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 8		How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 8	
Word of mouth, family or friends	36%	Word of mouth, family or friends	44%
Online source	26%	School	19%
Community group	23%	Community group	15%
City Council Member	18%	Flyer/poster	11%
Flyer/poster	16%		
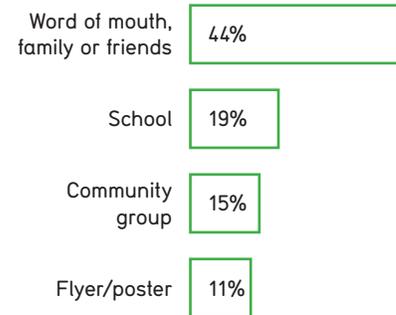
* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

A sign advertises the District 8 PB vote at the Abraham House in the Bronx.

What were the priorities of District 8 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 8 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 8 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 8.

17
Projects listed on the ballot

5
Projects selected by voters
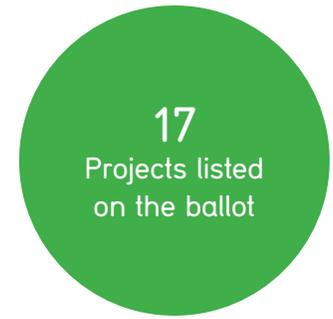
Projects on District 8 Ballot

Total Number: 17
Average Cost: $266,706

Parks and Recreation: **2**
Community Facilities: **4**
Schools and Libraries: **6**
Housing: **5**
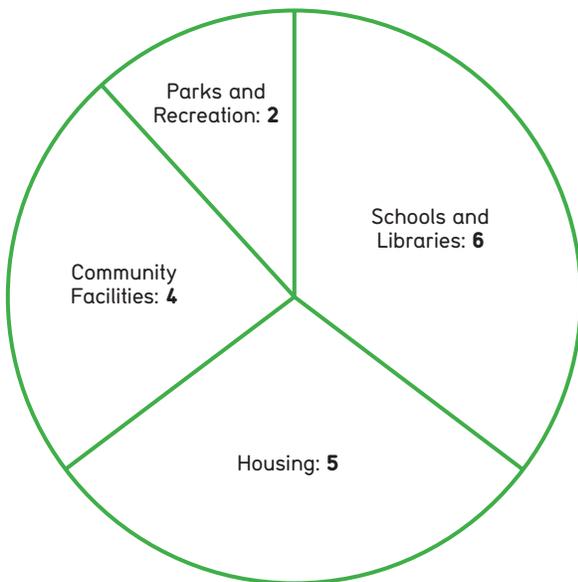
Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 8 PB voters?

(N=597)

Other: **5%**
Transportation: **3%**
Youth: **6%**
Health & Sanitation: **7%**
Public Safety: **9%**
Parks and Recreation: **9%**
Community Facilities: **10%**
Schools and Libraries: **32%**
Housing: **20%**
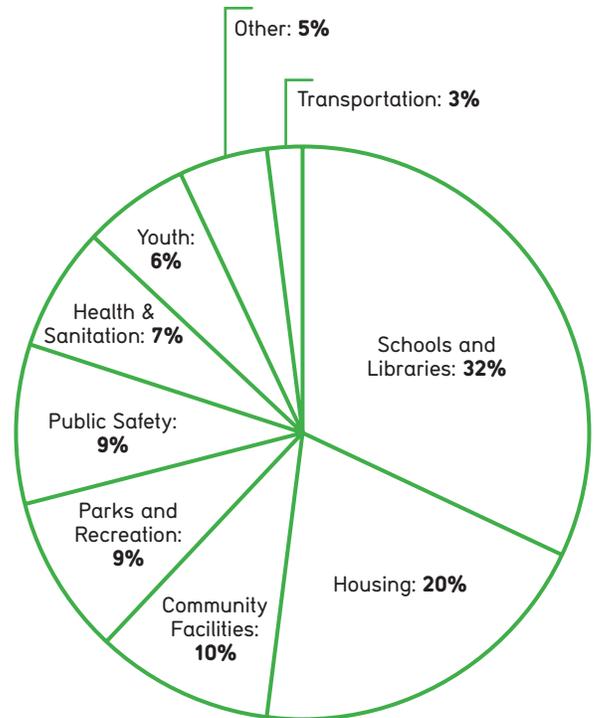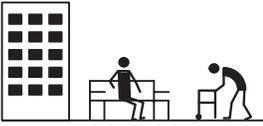
A Winning Project from District 8
Upgrades for Jefferson Senior Center
$450,000
568 out of 1,715 votes

Nearly 1,000 East Harlem seniors will benefit from kitchen upgrades at Jefferson Senior Center, which serves approximately 500 homebound seniors as well as 400 who attend programming at the center, according to Budget Delegate Brittney Narcisse. "Our kitchen is very small and our population, our clientele, is growing, so we need to… renovate and expand our kitchen so we can accommodate the equipment that is needed to provide meals to our seniors," Narcisse says.[72] The kitchen will be reconfigured to create sufficient space for equipment and staff, establishing separate sinks for food preparation and cleanup, and creating space for a vegetable steamer which will provide a healthier cooking method for the seniors who are served.

The upgrades also include renovations to the entryway and front door for the center, making it welcoming, safe and ADA compliant.

Winning Projects

5 Winning Projects: District 8

1,715 District 8 residents each voted for up to five of the seventeen projects on the ballot. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
School Building Upgrades	674	39%	$285,000
Union Settlement Playground Renovations	594	35%	$600,000
Upgrades for Jefferson Senior Center	568	33%	$450,000
Handicap-Accessible Bathrooms for Covello Senior Center	553	32%	$400,000
Playground Upgrade at Jefferson Houses	547	32%	$250,000
Total			$1,985,000

Additionally Funded Projects

In addition to the winning projects, Speaker Mark-Viverito dedicated funds to the following projects which were on the PB ballot but did not win. This indicates the additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote.

Project	Cost
Technology for Schools*	$250,000
Security Cameras for Betances Houses	$150,000
Total	$400,000

* Note that this was a portion of a larger project on the ballot: "Technology for Schools and Community Garden."

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 8

The data collected from PB participants in Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito's Council District 8 show the continued success of the district's concerted outreach efforts to people who are traditionally disenfranchised or underrepresented among voters in regular elections. The district saw an increase in lower-income participants, adults with less than a high school diploma, Spanish-speakers, people born outside the U.S., and people of color (though this includes both a decrease in PB voters identifying as Black or African-American and an increase in PB voters identifying as Hispanic or Latina/o). There was a slight decrease in participation in PB this cycle, pointing to the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. Social networks (family, friends and word of mouth), community groups, schools, online engagement strategies, flyers and posters and the Council Member's office were all effective modes of outreach to District 8 residents.

Similar to last cycle, Speaker Mark-Viverito allocated significantly more to winning than the minimum of $1 million, funding the five winning projects $1,985,000 and two additional projects, which were on the ballot but did not win, for an additional $400,000.

District 8 residents learn about projects at a Project Expo before the vote.

District 23

Council Member Mark Weprin
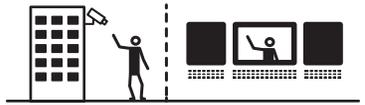
Installation of
Fitness Equipment at
Cunningham Park

Portable security
cameras

SMART Boards for District Schools

Technology upgrades
for District Schools

Security Upgrades for Fresh Meadows,
Hollis, and Windsor Park Libraries

Queens

District 23

Council Member Mark Weprin

Council Member Mark Weprin's district spans fourteen Queens neighborhoods, including Hollis Hills, Queens Village, Bellerose, Fresh Meadows and Oakland Gardens. The majority of district residents (53%) primarily speak a language other than English (11% Spanish and 42% other languages).* 39% of people in the district identify as Asian. In addition, 33% of the district is White, 15% Hispanic or Latino/a and 13% Black or African-American. A quarter of residents over 25 report that they have a high school diploma or GED, and 63% have at least some college education. Slightly more than a third (34%) of district residents have household incomes over $100,000.

This is the second cycle in which District 23 has participated in the process. **Participation in the process nearly doubled from last cycle to this one.** The demographics of participants were similar to last cycle, with some increase in participants of color, Spanish-speakers, adults with less than a high-school diploma, people with household incomes below $50,000, and people with barriers to voting. The majority of projects on the district's ballot related to schools and libraries, with others for parks and recreation, community facilities, public safety and public transportation.

> *"Participatory budgeting has proven to be a tremendous success in engaging and empowering local residents."*[73]

(**Council Member Mark Weprin**, District 23)

District 23 Overall Population:
152,416

Number of PB Participants:
2,212
Compared to 1,273 in Cycle 1

Neighborhoods:
Hollis Hills
Queens Village
Little Neck
Douglaston
Bayside
Bellerose
Floral Park
Glen Oaks
New Hyde Park
Hollis
Hollis Park
 Gardens
Holliswood
Fresh Meadows
Oakland Gardens

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

2,212 people
(1,273 in Cycle 2)

349 neighborhood assembly participants
(221 in Cycle 2)

50 Budget Delegates
(54 in Cycle 2)

1,888 voters
(1,116 in Cycle 2)

47% of PB voters identified as people of color.
Compared to **40%** in Cycle 2.

Who Participated in District 23?

In District 23, PB engaged 2,212 people, including: 349 neighborhood assembly participants, 50 budget delegates, and 1,888 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

- District 23 saw an overall increase in PB voters of color (47% this cycle, compared to 40% last cycle). However, people identifying as Asian, Black or African-American or Latino/a were underrepresented compared with their percentages of the overall voting-age district population.

  - 9% of PB voters identified as Black or African-American, compared with 11% of voting-age district residents. This compares with 8% of PB voters last cycle.

  - 10% of PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latino/a, compared with 13% of voting-age district residents. This compares to 6% of PB voters last cycle.

  - 21% of PB voters identified as Asian, compared with 35% of voting-age district residents. This compares with 22% of PB voters last cycle. This compares to 12% of voters in the 2013 local elections.

- Participants who identified as White made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (53%) and voters (55%). These rates of participation are slightly lower than the share of White voters in the 2013 local elections (58%).

Language and Country of Birth

- People whose primary language was English were overrepresented in the PB process: 93% of neighborhood assembly participants and 92% of voters reported English as a primary language, compared with 46% of the voting-age district population. This compares with 89% of voters last cycle.

- 4% of neighborhood assembly participants and voters listed Spanish as a primary language, an increase from 1% of voters last cycle. This compares with 12% of voting-age district residents.

- 23% of neighborhood assembly participants and 31% of PB voters reported they were born outside the U.S., compared with 29% of voters last cycle and 56% of voting-age district residents.

Gender

- Women were more likely to vote in PB than men in District 23, and women voted at higher rates in PB (62%) than in the 2013 local elections (54%).

Income

- According to survey data, the household income of neighborhood assembly participants and PB voters was similar to the overall voting-age population of the district.

- The household income of PB voters this cycle was similar to last, with a slight increase in voters with household incomes under $50,000 (35% of voters this cycle, compared with 31% in Cycle 2). This compares with 34% of district households.

Age

- Nearly a third (32%) of neighborhood assembly participants were 15-17 years old, as compared to 5% of PB-eligible district residents.* District 23 held targeted assemblies with high school students, which contributed to these numbers. 7% of PB voters were under 18.

- Young people between the ages of 15 and 25 voted in PB at a rate equal to their representation in the general population. A greater percentage of young people voted in Cycle 3 (12%) than in Cycle 2 (7%).

- People over the age of 65 were overrepresented in the PB process, making up 28% of neighborhood assembly participants and 35% of voters compared with 19% of the district population.

21% of PB voters identified as Asian.

Compared to 22% in Cycle 2, 35% of voting-age district residents, and 12% of voters in local elections.

Voters reporting household incomes under $50,000

PB voters in Cycle 3	PB voters in Cycle 2	District households
35%	31%	34%
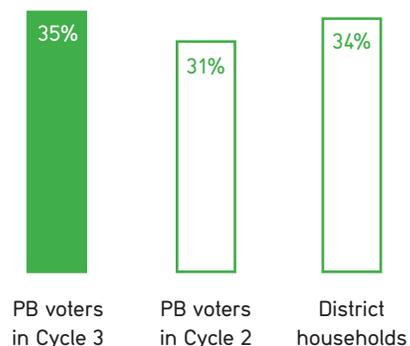
32% of neighborhood assembly participants were 15–17 years old.

Compared to 5% of PB-eligible district residents.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

Education

- 5% of Cycle 3 voters over the age of 25 had less than a high school diploma, compared with 1% of Cycle 2 voters. This compares with 12% of the district population.

- People with graduate or professional degrees were overrepresented in the PB process when compared to the general population (37% of neighborhood assembly participants and 31 % of voters, compared with 15% of the general population).

Community members line up to cast their ballots in District 23.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 23?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 87% of PB voters said that the only way in which they participated in Cycle 3 was through the PB vote. This is comparable to last cycle.

- 32% of neighborhood assembly participants and 17% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 41% of neighborhood assembly participants and 13% of voters said they were not registered to vote because they were not eligible. This compares to 7% of neighborhood assembly participants and 9% of voters last cycle.

- 5% of voters and neighborhood assembly participants said they were not eligible to vote because they were not a U.S. citizen.

- 62% of PB voters and 48% of neighborhood assembly participants said they always vote in local elections. This compares with 72% of PB voters and 70% of neighborhood assembly participants last cycle.

Working with Others in the Community

- 54% of neighborhood assembly participants and 72% of voters said they had never worked with others to solve community problems outside of PB. This compares with 39% of neighborhood assembly participants and 57% of voters last cycle.

> 5% of PB voters and neighborhood assembly participants said they were not eligible to vote because they were not a U.S. citizen.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 23?

District 23 participants were most likely to hear about PB through their social networks: family, friends or word of mouth. Many participants also heard about the process through the Council Member. Community groups were important for getting the word out, particularly for the neighborhood assemblies. Online sources and outreach through flyers and posters also helped promote PB in the district, and schools* played an important role during the vote.

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 23

Word of mouth, family or friends	27%
Online source	23%
City Council Member	22%
Community group	18%
Flyer/poster	15%

How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 23

Word of mouth, family or friends	26%
School	20%
City Council Member	14%
Flyer/poster	13%
Mailing	12%
Online source	12%
Community group	11%
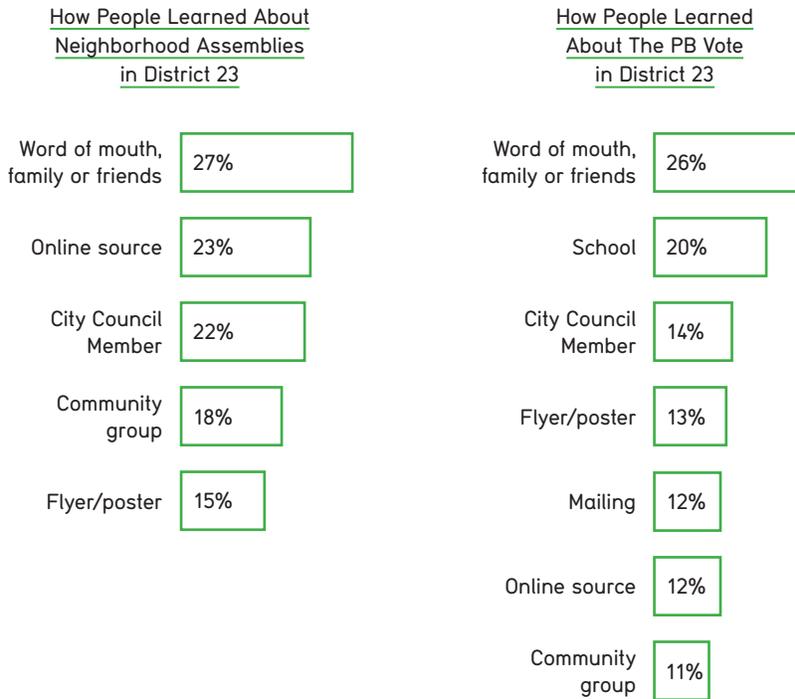
* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

District 23 residents learn about the PB process at a Neighborhood Assembly.

What were the priorities of District 23 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 23 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 23 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 23.

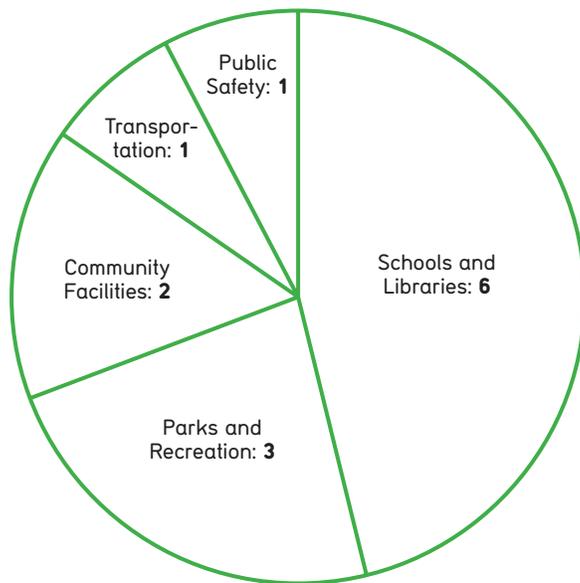**13**
Projects listed on the ballot

5
Projects selected by voters

Projects on District 23 Ballot

Total Number: 13
Average Cost: $221,413

Public Safety: **1**

Transpor-tation: **1**

Community Facilities: **2**

Schools and Libraries: **6**

Parks and Recreation: **3**
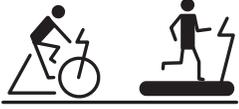
A Winning Project from District 23
Installation of Fitness Equipment at Cunningham Park
$200,000
875 out of 1,888 votes

Cunningham Park, one of the largest parks in Queens,[74] is a community resource providing open space, entertainment and opportunities for health and wellness activities.

This project will allow visitors to the park to benefit from new fitness amenities, with the installation of a fitness walk and exercise loop.

These upgrades are not the first that the park has received through the participatory budgeting process. Last cycle, two projects—the enhancement of a picnic area and a music stage— won funding through the PB process as well.

Winning Projects

5 Winning Projects: District 23

1,888 voters cast a ballot for up to five projects in District 23. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
SMART Boards for District Schools	1116	59%	$450,000
Installation of Fitness Equipment at Cunningham Park	875	46%	$200,000
Portable Security Cameras	718	38%	$105,000
Technology Upgrades for District Schools	699	37%	$85,785
Security Upgrades for Fresh Meadows, Hollis, and Windsor Park Libraries	671	36%	$265,000
Total			$1,105,785

Additionally Funded Project

In addition to the winning projects, the Council Member dedicated funds to the following project which was on the PB ballot but did not win. This indicates the additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote.

Project	Cost
Bellerose Reading Garden at Bellerose Playground	$500,000
Total	$500,000

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 23

In its second cycle participating in PB, District 23 engaged nearly twice as many people as the previous cycle, with a total of 2,212 participants. The district saw an overall increase in PB voters of color (47% this cycle, compared with 40% last cycle), though non-White voters were still underrepresented as compared to voting-age district residents. As with last cycle, Asian voters, while underrepresented compared to the district population, voted in PB at a higher rate than the local elections. The income of PB voters was similar to that of district residents', which was also true last cycle. This cycle saw a slight increase in the participation of people with incomes below $50,000. District 23 held targeted assemblies with high school students this cycle, which contributed to nearly a third of assembly participants being between 15 and 17. People born in the U.S. and English speakers were overrepresented in the process, as with last cycle, though there was a small increase in Spanish-speakers. The provision of translated materials and interpretation at meetings could help engage more non-English speakers in future years. Council Member Weprin dedicated approximately $1.1 million to the 5 projects selected by his constituents and an additional $500,000 to one project which was on the PB ballot but did not win.

Residents brainstorm projects for their district at a neighborhood assembly in District 23.

District 31

Council Member Donovan Richards
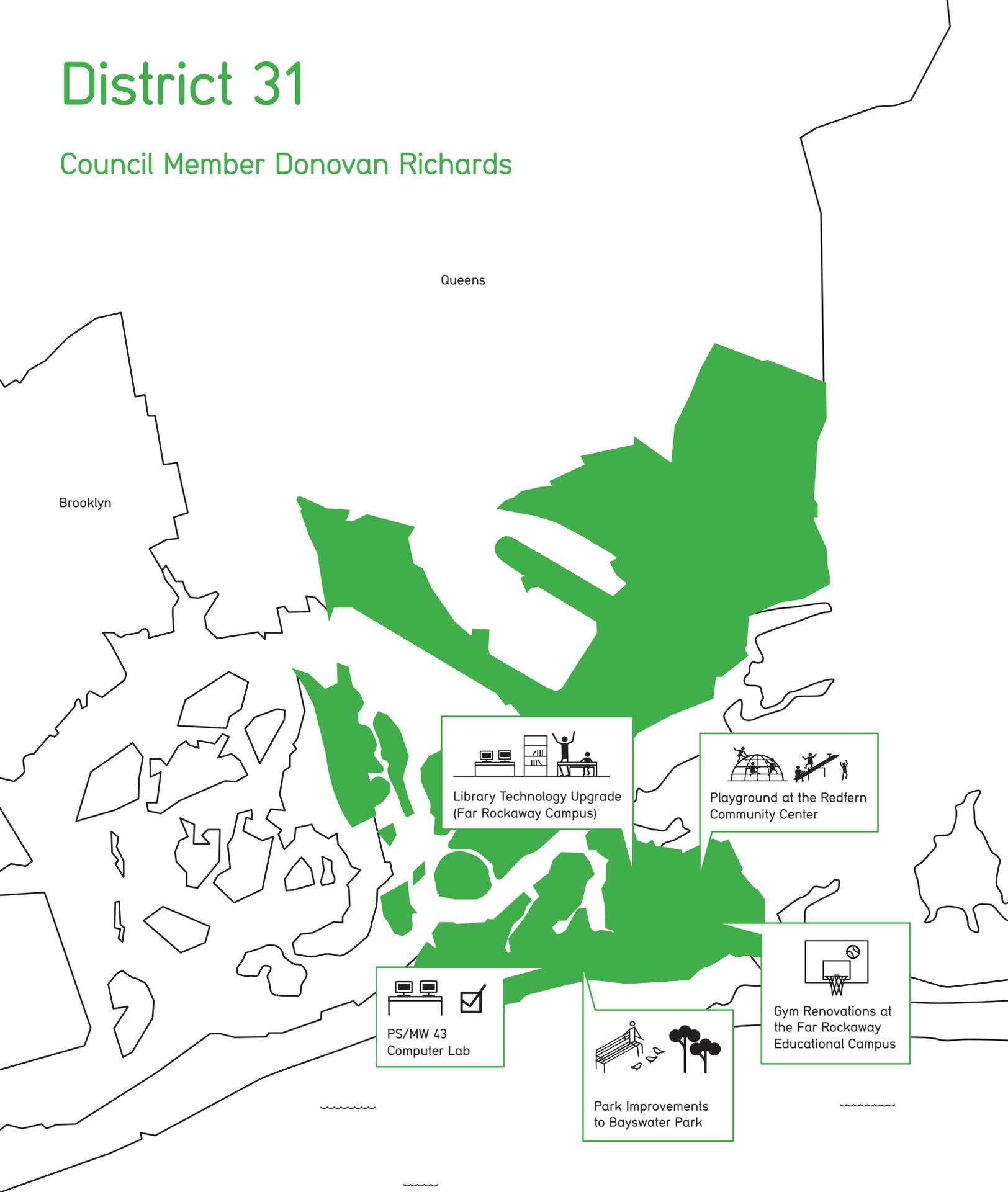
Queens

Brooklyn

Library Technology Upgrade
(Far Rockaway Campus)

Playground at the Redfern
Community Center

PS/MW 43
Computer Lab

Park Improvements
to Bayswater Park

Gym Renovations at
the Far Rockaway
Educational Campus

District 31

Council Member Donovan Richards

Council Member Donovan Richards' district in Queens was unique this cycle in that only a portion of the district participated in PB. The Rockaway neighborhoods of Arverne, Bayswater, Edgemere, Far Rockaway and Hammels participated, while the other neighborhoods of the district (Laurelton, Rosedale, parts of Springfield Gardens) which are geographically separated in part by the Jamaica Bay, did not. Next cycle, Council Member Richards plans to move the process to the other portion of the district.

Slightly more than half (52%) of District 31 residents in the participating portion of the district identify as Black or African-American, and more than a quarter (27%) as Hispanic or Latino/a.* 19% of people in the district identify as White, and 3% as Asian. This portion of the district has many young people: 41% are under the age of 25. The majority (57%) of residents under 25 have a high school diploma or GED or less. Most people (59%) earn under $50,000 annually, and more than a quarter (27%) earn under $15,000. Almost a third (31%) primarily speak a language other than English—with 20% listing Spanish as their primary language, and 11% indicating another language. A third of residents in the participating neighborhoods were born outside the U.S.

More than 2,000 community members engaged in this first cycle of PB in District 31—a strong turnout. While a diverse group of people were engaged in PB, and the district had significant youth participation, some community members—such as non-English speakers, and people born outside the U.S.—were underrepresented in the process. The ballot included projects for schools and libraries, youth, parks and recreation and public safety.

Overall Population (Participating Neighborhoods): 79,914

Number of PB Participants: 2,213

Participating Neighborhoods:
Arverne
Bayswater
Edgemere
Far Rockaway
Hammels

> *"With Participatory Budgeting, my office was able to engage the community on a more personal level...It was great to see neighbors reaching out to neighbors in an effort to improve the community. The process has been nothing but positive for the 31st Council district and I look forward to continuing this work next year!"*[75]

(Council Member Donovan Richards, District 31)

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

2,213 people

90 neighborhood assembly participants

41 Budget Delegates

2,149 voters

Who Participated in District 31?

In District 31, PB engaged 2,213 people, including: 90 neighborhood assembly participants, 41 budget delegates, and 2,149 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

• People who identified as African-American or Black made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (77%) and PB voters (69%). This compares with 51% of the voting-age population in the participating neighborhoods.

• People who identified as Hispanic or Latino/a were underrepresented when compared to voting-age residents in the participating neighborhoods (18% of PB voters compared to 24% of voting age residents) but participated at PB at higher rates than in the 2013 local elections (5%).

• 9% of PB voters identified as White, compared to 19% of voting-age district residents and 13% of voters in the 2013 local elections.

Language and Country of Birth

• People who listed English as their primary language were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants (100%) and PB voters (92%) compared to the general, voting-age population of the district (66%).

• People who were born outside of the U.S. made up a greater percentage of PB voters (29%) compared to neighborhood assembly participants (3%). This compares with 43% of voting-age district residents.

Gender

- Women made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (62%) and PB voters (66%).

- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters than voters in the 2013 local elections (66% and 62%, respectively).

Income

- A majority of PB voters (55%) had annual household incomes below $35,000. This compares with 31% of neighborhood assembly attendees, 48% of households in the participating neighborhoods, and 12% of 2013 local election voters.

- People with incomes over $75,000 were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies compared to PB voters (38% and 13%, respectively) and voting-age district residents (26%).

Age

- 20% of PB voters were under the age of 18 and therefore ineligible to vote in general elections.

- A smaller percentage of people 65 years and older voted in PB (9%) compared to the 2013 local elections (28%).

Education

- People over 25 who reported having less than a high school diploma were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (0%) and PB vote (11%) compared to district residents (26%).

- A greater percentage of PB voters reported having less than a Bachelor's degree compared to neighborhood assembly participants (72% compared to 23%).

77% of neighborhood assembly participants and 69% of PB voters identified as African-American or Black.
Compared to 51% of voting-age district residents.

20% of PB voters were under the age of 18 and therefore ineligible to vote in general elections.

Community residents attend a facilitator training
in District 31.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 31?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 79% of surveyed voters had not participated in this cycle of PB other than by voting.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 18% of PB voters reported that they were not registered to vote in regular elections because they were under 18 years old.

- 89% of neighborhood assembly participants and 66% of PB voters were registered to vote.

- Among PB voters who were registered to vote in regular elections, 20% were unlikely voters (reporting that they never, rarely or sometimes vote).

Working with Others in the Community

- 85% of neighborhood assembly participants said they had worked with others to solve community problems in the past, while 15% had not. In the vote, this was nearly reversed, with 30% saying that had worked with others in the community to solve problems, and 70% saying they had not.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 31?

Participants were most likely to hear about PB through word of mouth, family or friends. Online sources played a bigger role in spreading the word about neighborhood assemblies than about the PB vote. Community groups and the Council Member's office were important for outreach at both the neighborhood assembly and vote stages, and many people found out about the vote through a school.*

How People Learned About
Neighborhood Assemblies
in District 31

Word of mouth, family or friends	40%
Online source	40%
City Council Member	26%
Community group	20%

How People Learned
About The PB Vote
in District 31

Word of mouth, family or friends	43%
School	22%
City Council Member	12%
Community group	11%
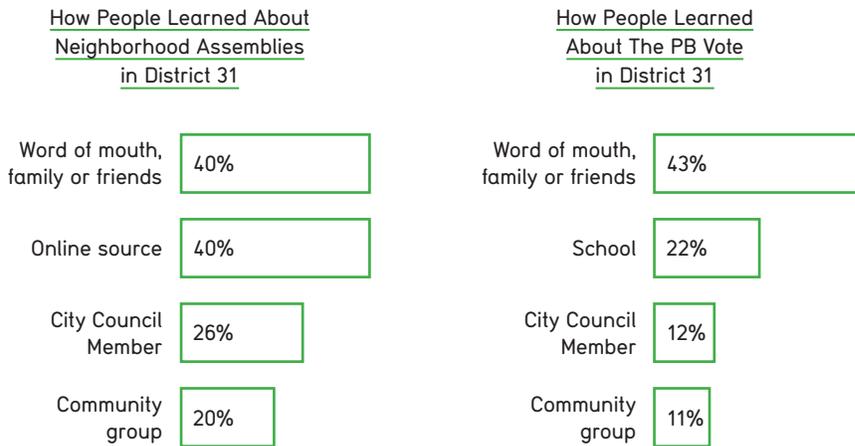
* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

A poster at an expo in District 31 outlines a project that would upgrade the playground at Redfern Community Center (a winning project this cycle).
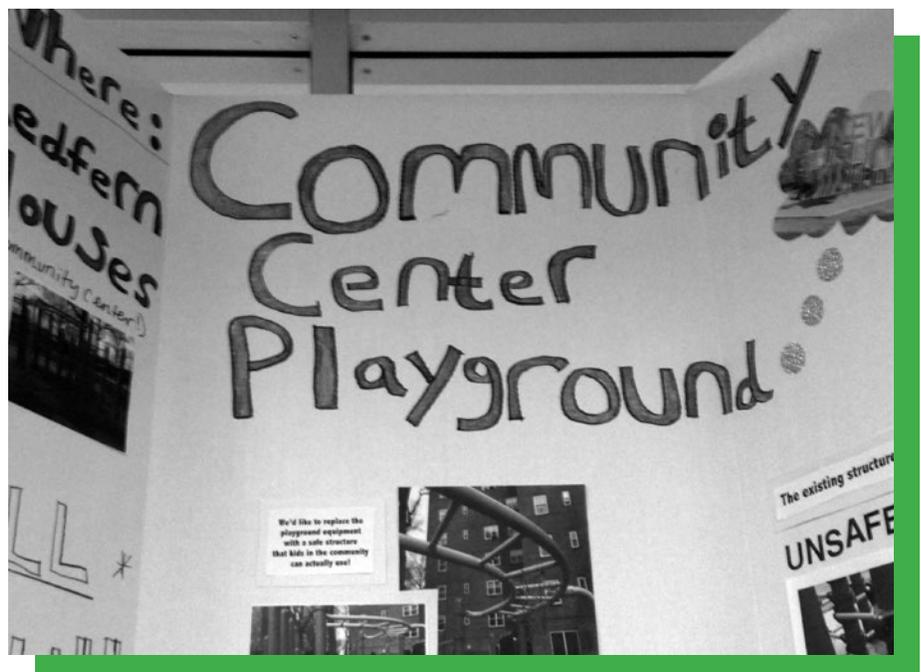
What were the priorities of District 31 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 31 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 31 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 31.

9
Projects listed
on the ballot

5
Projects
selected by
voters

Projects on District 31 Ballot

Total Number: 9
Average Cost: $194,111

Public Safety: **1**

Parks and Recreation: **2**

Schools and Libraries: **3**

Youth: **3**

Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 31 PB voters?

(N=734)

Community Facilities: **4%**

Transporation: **3%**

Other: **1%**

Health & Sanitation: **5%**

Housing: **10%**

Youth: **12%**

Parks and Recreation: **12%**

Public Safety: **16%**

Schools and Libraries: **38%**

Winning Projects

5 Winning Projects: District 31

2,149 voters cast a ballot for up to five projects in District 31. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
Library Technology Upgrade (Far Rockaway Campus)	1475	69%	$150,000
Park Improvements to Bayswater Park	1344	63%	$682,000
Gym Renovations at the Far Rockaway Educational Campus	1275	59%	$125,000
PS/MS 43 Computer Lab	1149	53%	$150,000
Community Center Playground at the Redfern Community Center	1031	48%	$150,000
Total			$1,257,000

Additionally Funded Project

In addition to the winning projects, the Council Member also dedicated funds to the following project which was on the PB ballot but did not win. This indicates the additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote.

Project	Cost
Weight Room Upgrade at the Far Rockaway Educational Campus	$150,000
Total	$150,000

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 31

In District 31's first PB process, which took place in only a portion of the district, more than 2,000 community members came out to participate. People who identified as African-American or Black made up the majority of participants, and took part in PB at rates higher than their representation in the overall voting-age population. People who identified as Hispanic or Latino/a were underrepresented compared to the district, but voted in PB at rates higher than in the 2013 local elections. There was strong turnout by lower income people: a majority of PB voters (55%) had annual household incomes below $35,000. Adults with a formal education level less than a high school diploma were underrepresented. People born in the U.S., and people who listed English as their primary language were both overrepresented, indicating that concerted efforts to engage immigrant communities and provide translated materials and interpretation in future cycles would be beneficial. Council Member Richards allocated nearly $1.3 million to the five winning projects from the district's ballot, and an additional $150,000 to one of the projects which was on the ballot but did not win.

District 31 residents brainstorm ideas for their community at a neighborhood assembly.
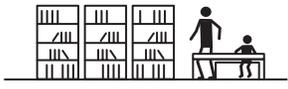
District 32

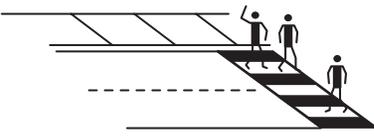## Council Member Eric Ulrich

Brooklyn

Repave paths in Forest Park

Upgrades at Richmond Hill Library

School Upgrades

Paving along Woodhaven Boulevard

Installation of Real Time Bus Clocks

Improvements to Broad Channel Park

ADA-Compatible Swing Sets

Sea-themed Statue

School Upgrades

Additional funding for Performance Space

Median resurfacing and beautification

District 32

Council Member Eric Ulrich

Council Member Eric Ulirch's district in Queens covers 14 neighborhoods in Queens. District 32 was unique among participating districts this cycle in establishing two separate ballots for the geographically distinct neighborhoods of the district: one for the neighborhoods on and around the Rockaway peninsula, which include Breezy Point, Belle Harbor, Rockaway Beach and Broad Channel among others, and another for the 'mainland' neighborhoods of Woodhaven, Richmond Hill and Ozone Park.

Much of the district (42%) identifies as White, with slightly more than a third (35%) identifying as Hispanic or Latino/a, 15% as Asian, and 9% as Black or African-American. Nearly a third (32%) report that their highest level of education is a high school diploma or GED, while 49% have at least some college education. The majority of the district (59%) has an annual household income of $50,000 or above, and 26% earn $100,000 or more a year. 44% of residents report a language other than English as their primary language, with 27% indicating Spanish, and 17% listing another language. More than a third (39%) of district residents were born outside the United States.

Limited data was collected from District 32 due to low survey return rates, so the information gathered provides a snapshot of only some PB participants. The people who did complete surveys were more likely to be White, born in the U.S., speak English and have higher incomes that the general voting-age population of the district. There was a dip in overall participation this cycle as compared to last, though the full district was included in the PB process this cycle. This may be an ongoing effect of the impact of Hurricane Sandy on the district, and also points to the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. Most of the projects on the two District 32 ballots were for parks and recreation, with several for schools and libraries, transportation and community facilities.

> *"I was proud to be the first elected official from Queens to give my constituents a real say in how their money is being spent… This is a great chance for anyone who wants to have a voice in the decision-making process or has an idea for a project that would benefit the community to step up and get involved."[77]*

(Council Member Eric Ulrich, District 32)

District 32 Overall Population:
154,769

Number of PB Participants:
983

Neighborhoods:
Belle Harbor
Breezy Point
Broad Channel
Hamilton Beach
Lindenwood
Neponsit
Ozone Park
Rockaway Beach
Rockaway Park
South Ozone Park
South Richmond Hill
Woodhaven

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008–2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

983 people

(1,010 in Cycle 2,
1,799 in Cycle 1)

70

neighborhood
assembly
participants

(60 in Cycle 2,
380 in Cycle 1)

22

Budget
Delegates

899

voters

(976 in Cycle 2,
1,639 in Cycle 1)

Who Participated in District 32?

In District 32, PB Engaged 983 people, including: 70 neighborhood assembly participants, 22 budget delegates, and 899 voters. Overall participation in PB decreased from the previous cycles. This is possibly a continued result of the impact of Hurricane Sandy on the district, and indicates a need for ongoing outreach and engagement work in the district. Demographic information was collected at key points during the process. District 32's surveys, particularly during the vote, had very low rates of return. As a result, that data cannot be used to draw conclusions about overall participation in the district, and provides only a snapshot of some participating district residents:

Race/Ethnicity

- A majority of survey respondents identified as White: 94% of PB voters and 71% of neighborhood assembly attendees. This compares to 69% of PB voters last cycle, 45% of voting-age district residents, and 65% of 2013 local election voters.

- 13% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 3% of surveyed voters identified as Black or African-American, compared to 7% of voting-age district residents and 6% of 2013 local election voters.

- 16% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 4% of surveyed PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latino/a, compared with 30% of voting-age district residents and 20% of 2013 local election voters. Last cycle, 11% of PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latina/o.

Language and Country of Birth

- People born outside of the United States were underrepresented at neighborhood assemblies (14%) and the PB vote (5%) compared to the overall voting-age district population (44%). This compares with 15% of surveyed Cycle 2 voters.

- People who reported that English was their primary language were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (100%) and PB vote (97%) compared to the overall voting-age district population (55%). This is an increase from last cycle, where 89% of surveyed PB voters reported English as their primary language.

Gender

- Women made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (70%) and PB voters surveyed (68%). This compares to 62% of PB voters last cycle, 52% of voting-age district residents, and 54% of 2013 local election voters.

Income

- A greater percentage of people with household incomes above $50,000 voted in PB this cycle than in Cycle 2 (74% compared to 34%). This compares with 59% of households in the district.

- People with incomes under $35,000 were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (22%) and the PB vote (7%) compared to the district population (26%).

- A greater percentage of people with household incomes below $50,000 voted in PB than in the 2013 local elections (26% and 14%, respectively).

Age

- People between 15 and 24 years old were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (7%) and among surveyed PB voters (0%) compared to the PB-eligible* district population (16%).

- Data shows that a greater percentage of surveyed PB voters 65 years and older this cycle as compared to Cycle 2 (37% compared to 13%). However, many of the surveys that were collected were from a vote site at a senior citizens center. This compares to 32% of voters in the 2013 local elections and 16% of district residents.

16% of neighborhood assembly attendees and **4%** of surveyed PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latino/a.

Compared to **30%** of voting-age district residents, **20%** of 2013 local election voters, and **11%** of PB voters in Cycle 2.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

Education

- People between 15 and 24 years old were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (7%) and among surveyed PB voters (0%) compared to the PB-eligible district population (16%).

- Data shows that a greater percentage of surveyed PB voters 65 years and older this cycle as compared to Cycle 2 (37% compared to 13%). However, many of the surveys that were collected were from a vote site at a senior citizens center. This compares to 32% of voters in the 2013 local elections and 16% of district residents.

District 32 residents learn about the PB process at an informational session.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 32?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 86% of surveyed PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB other than by voting. This is comparable with last cycle.

- 35% of neighborhood assembly participants and 38% of surveyed PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB. This compares with 20% of PB voters from last cycle.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 93% of neighborhood assembly participants and 100% of PB surveyed PB voters were registered to vote. This is comparable with last cycle.

- 3% of surveyed PB voters were unlikely voters in regular elections (reporting that they never, rarely or sometimes vote).

Working with Others in the Community

- 71% of neighborhood assembly participants and 66% of surveyed PB voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems. This is comparable to voters last cycle.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 32?

Most surveyed PB participants heard about PB through an online source, through their social networks (family and friends or word of mouth), from a community group, or from the City Council Member.

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 32

Online source	49%
Community group	40%
Word of mouth, family or friends	40%
Television, newspaper or radio	14%
City Council Member	14%

How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 32

Word of mouth, family or friends	37%
Online source	32%
Community group	27%
City Council Member	20%

* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

What were the priorities of District 32 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 32 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods. District 32 is unique in having separate, concurrent processes in the two geographically separated portions of the district: the neighborhoods in the Rockaways and the "mainland" Queens neighborhoods of Woodhaven, Richmond Hill and Ozone Park.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the two District 32 PB ballots.

The following tables show the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 32.

8
Projects listed on the Rockaways ballot

9
Projects listed on the mainland ballot

6
Projects selected by Rockaway voters

5
Projects selected by mainland voters
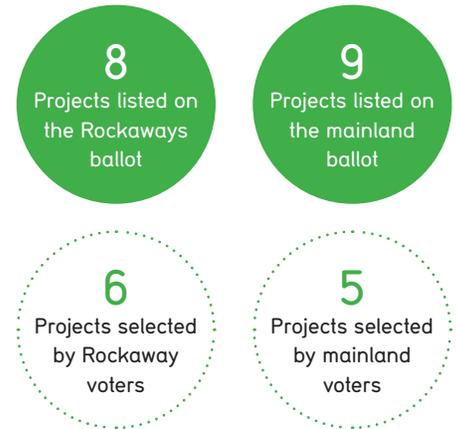
Projects on District 32 Rockaways Ballot

Total Number: 8
Average Cost: $144,375

Schools and Libraries: **1**
Parks and Recreation: **7**
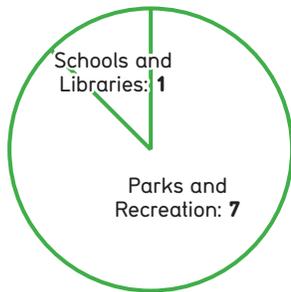
Projects on District 32 Mainland Ballot

Total Number: 9
Average Cost: $211,778

Community Facilities: **1**
Transpor-tation: **2**
Parks and Recreation: **4**
Schools and Libraries: **2**

Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 32 PB voters?

(N=66)

Health & Sanitation: **3%**
Housing: **3%**
Youth: **5%**
Community Facilities: **5%**
Transporation: **9%**
Public Safety: **14%**
Schools and Libraries: **30%**
Parks and Recreation: **32%**
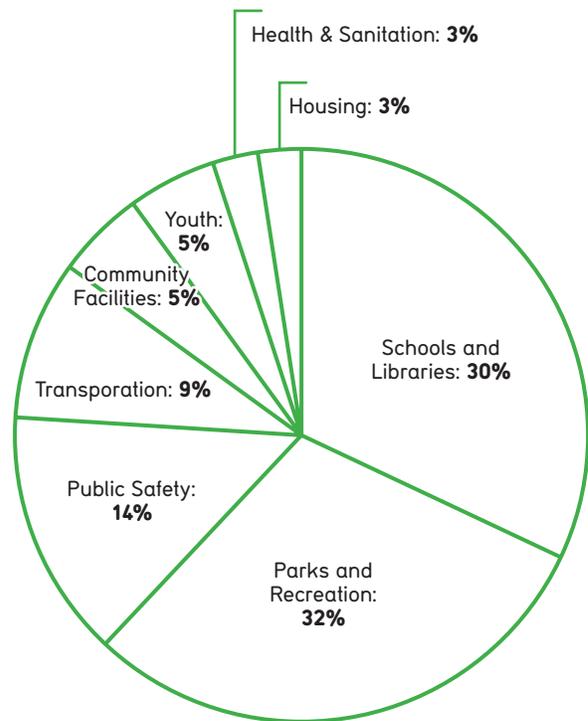
A Winning Project from District 32
ADA Compatible swing sets for children
$150,000
340 votes

Various playgrounds in the Broad Channel & Rockaway neighborhoods will receive funding through this project to install ADA-compatible swing sets.

For some children with special needs, existing playground equipment may not be accessible. This project will expand access to equipment, making playgrounds more inclusive and ensuring that the swing sets can be utilized by a broader segment of the children in these communities.

Winning Projects

899 voters cast a ballot for up to 5 projects in District 32. The upper table shows the winning projects from the Rockaways ballot; the lower table shows the winning projects from the mainland ballot.

6 Winning Projects: District 32 Rockaways Ballot

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
Upping the Standards in Our Schools (School Upgrades)	475	53%	$320,000
Resurfacing and Improvements to Broad Channel Park	341	38%	$100,000
ADA Compatible Swing Sets for Children	340	38%	$150,000
Median Resurfacing and Beautification	325	36%	$100,000
Additional Funding for Performance Space	309	34%	$200,000
Sea themed Statue/Project	298	33%	$150,000
Total			$1,020,000

5 Winning Projects: District 32 mainland Ballot

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
Technology Upgrades at PS 273, PS 60, PS 64 and New Fencing at JHS 210	137	15%	$376,000
Installation of Real Time Bus Countdown Clocks	112	12%	$80,000
Paving along Woodhaven Boulevard	106	12%	$300,000
Repave the Pathways in Forest Park	96	11%	$150,000
Upgrades at Richmond Hill Library	93	10%	$100,000
Total			$1,006,000

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 32

District 32 was unique among participating districts this cycle in dividing its PB process in two—with the geographically separated portions of the district undertaking separate, simultaneous processes that produced two ballots. Participation this cycle was lower than last, though a greater portion of the district was included in the PB process this cycle. This dip in participation may be an ongoing effect of the impact of Hurricane Sandy on the district, and also points to the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. While limited data was collected from the district, among those surveyed people of color, non-English speakers, people born outside the U.S., lower income people, and people with lower levels of formal education were underrepresented when compared with the overall voting-age population of the district. These findings indicate that targeted outreach to these communities, and the provision of translated materials and interpretation at meetings, would be beneficial. Council Member Eric Ulirch allocated slightly over a million dollars to the winning projects from each of the two ballots in the district—totaling a little above $2 million for the 11 winning projects district-wide.

District 33

Council Member Stephen Levin

Queens

Manhattan

McGolrick Park Playground Reconstruction

BOOKlyn Shuttle

PS261 Bathroom Renovations
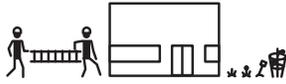
Gowanus Community Center Re-Opening

NYCHA Playground Repairs

Brooklyn

District 33

Council Member Stephen Levin

Council Member Stephen Levin's Brooklyn district includes the neighborhoods of Brooklyn Heights, Greenpoint, Boerum Hill and parts of Williamsburg and Bedford Stuyvesant. Three-quarters of the district identifies as White, 15% as Latina/o, 6% as Asian and 6% as Black or African-American.* Half of residents have a Bachelor's, graduate or professional degree. More than half (56%) of residents have an annual income of $50,000 or more, and nearly a third (31%) earn $100,000 or more a year. Three fourths of district residents were born in the U.S., and about half (49%) report that English is their primary language, with 16% indicating Spanish and 36% indicating another language.

In its second cycle participating in PB, District 33 was successful in engaging more district residents who identified as Black or African-American, as well as more low-income community members and those with lower levels of formal education. The district saw a small decrease in participation by people born outside the U.S., and an increase in people who listed their primary language as English. The district was successful in engaging community members who live in public housing, by holding assemblies, conducting outreach and setting up mobile vote sites at public housing developments. Public housing tenants, as well as the community organization Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE), conducted outreach and get out the vote work. The district saw a decrease in overall PB participant numbers, indicating a need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. District 33's ballot included projects for schools and libraries, park and recreation, community facilities, housing and transportation.

> *"Participatory Budgeting is a unique opportunity to have a say in the future of our community and it has been great to see so many people get involved."*[78]

(**Council Member Stephen Levin**, District 33)

District 33 Overall Population:
159,127

Number of PB Participants:
2,148

Neighborhoods:
Bedford-
 Stuyvesant
Brooklyn Heights
Boerum Hill
Downtown
 Brooklyn
DUMBO
Greenpoint
Vinegar Hill
Williamsburg

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

2,148 people
(2,632 in Cycle 2)

182
neighborhood
assembly
participants
(173 in Cycle 2)

40
Budget
Delegates
(40 in Cycle 2)

1,981
voters
(2,632 in Cycle 2)

17% of PB voters identified as Black or African-American.

Compared to 12% in Cycle 2, 6% of district residents, and 10% of voters in local elections.

Who Participated in District 33?

In District 33, PB engaged 2,148 people, including: 182 neighborhood assembly participants, 40 budget delegates, and 1,981 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

- A greater percentage of people who identified as Black or African-American voted in PB this cycle compared with Cycle 2 (17% this cycle compared with 12% last cycle). This is compared with 6% of district residents and 10% of 2013 local election voters who identified as Black or African-American.

- People who identified as Asian voted in PB at a level consistent with their representation in the voting-age district population (5% of PB voters and 6% of district residents), and higher than in the 2013 local elections (3%). This is comparable with PB voters last cycle (6%).

- 13% of PB voters identified as Latino/a, compared with 15% of voting-age district residents and 11% of local election voters. This is comparable with PB voters last cycle (12%).

Language and Country of Birth

- People who listed English as their primary language were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants and PB voters (90% of neighborhood assembly participants and 92% of voters listed English as their primary language, compared with 53% of district residents).

- People who listed English as their primary language made up a greater percentage of voters this cycle, compared with Cycle 2 (92% this cycle compared with 87% in Cycle 2).

- People who were born outside the U.S. were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (17%) and the PB vote (22%) compared to the voting-age district population (32%).

Gender

- Women made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (69%) and PB voters (67%).

- Women made up a greater percentage of surveyed PB voters this cycle than in Cycle 2 (67% compared with 62%).

- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters than voters in the 2013 local elections (67% and 51%, respectively).

Income

- A greater percentage of PB voters reported household incomes below $50,000 this cycle, compared with Cycle 2 (36% this cycle compared with 29% in Cycle 2). This compares with 45% of the voting-age district population.

- People who reported household incomes below $50,000 were overrepresented at neighborhood assemblies, compared to the PB voting-age district population (63% compared with 45%).
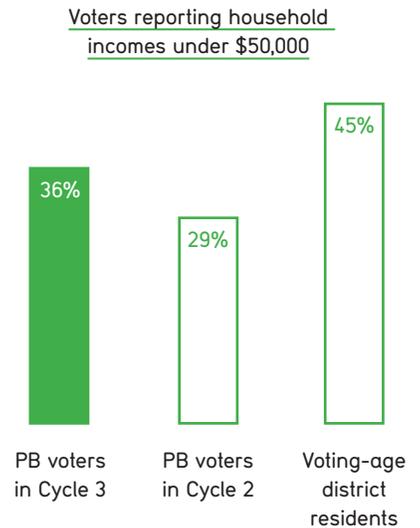
Age

- Almost half (48%) of neighborhood assembly participants were between 15 and 35, which is consistent with the district population. This compares with 23% percent of PB voters.

- People 65 years and older voted in PB at a higher rate than their representation in PB-eligible* district population, but a lower rate than in the 2013 local elections (14% of PB voters were 65 years or over, compared with 10% of district residents, and 18% of voters in local elections).

Education

- A greater percentage of PB voters over the age of 25 reported having less than a Bachelor's degree this cycle, as compared with Cycle 2 (36% this cycle, compared with 26% in Cycle 2). This compares with 50% of the district population.

Voters reporting household incomes under $50,000

36% — PB voters in Cycle 3
29% — PB voters in Cycle 2
45% — Voting-age district residents

36% of PB voters over the age of 25 reported having less than a Bachelor's degree. Compared to 26% in Cycle 2 and 50% of the district population.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 33?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 88% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB other than by voting. This is comparable to the percentages of PB voters last cycle who only participated by voting.

- 37% of neighborhood assembly participants and 20% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 86% of neighborhood assembly participants and 90% of PB voters were registered to vote. This compares to 95% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 92% of voters last cycle.

- 4% of neighborhood assembly participants and 7% of PB voters were not registered to vote because they were not U.S. citizens.

Working with Others in the Community

- 44% of neighborhood assembly participants and 61% of voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems. This is similar to last cycle, in which 36% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 68% of voters had never worked with others to solve community problems.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 33?

Social networks played a major role in getting out the word about PB in District 33, with word of mouth, family and friends being the primary ways people heard about both the neighborhood assemblies and the vote. Community groups also reached many participants, particularly in the neighborhood assembly phase. Using flyers and posters as outreach tools was effective, as was getting out the word through schools,* through the Council Member's office, and using online outreach.
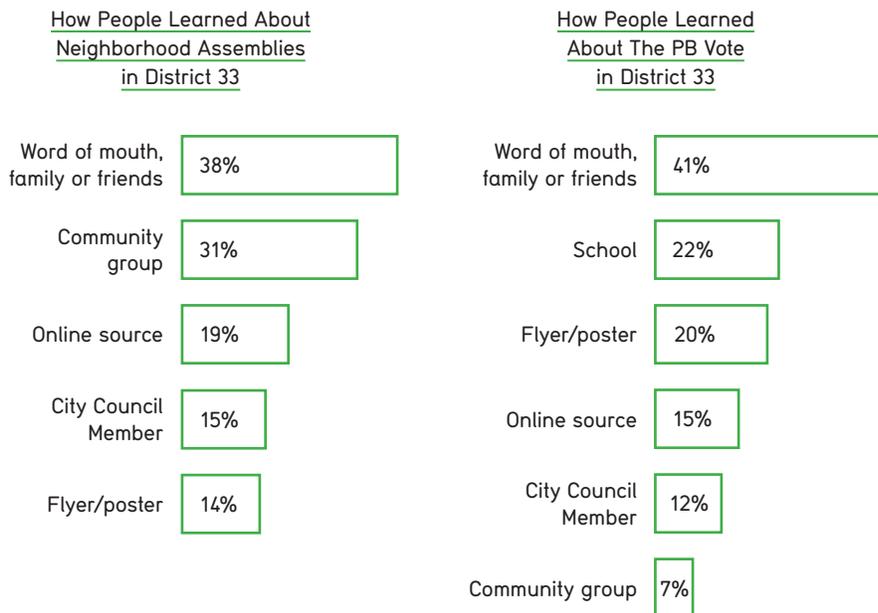
How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 33

Word of mouth, family or friends	38%
Community group	31%
Online source	19%
City Council Member	15%
Flyer/poster	14%

How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 33

Word of mouth, family or friends	41%
School	22%
Flyer/poster	20%
Online source	15%
City Council Member	12%
Community group	7%

* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

A sign advertises the PB vote at Council Member Levin's district office in District 33.

15
Projects listed
on the ballot

5
Projects
selected by
voters
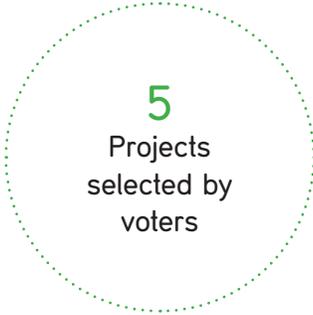
What were the priorities of District 33 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 33 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods. Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 33 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 33.

Projects on District 33 Ballot

Total Number: 15
Average Cost: $238,150

Transportation: **1**

Housing: **2**

Community
Facilities: **2**

Parks and
Recreation: **5**

Schools and
Libraries: **5**
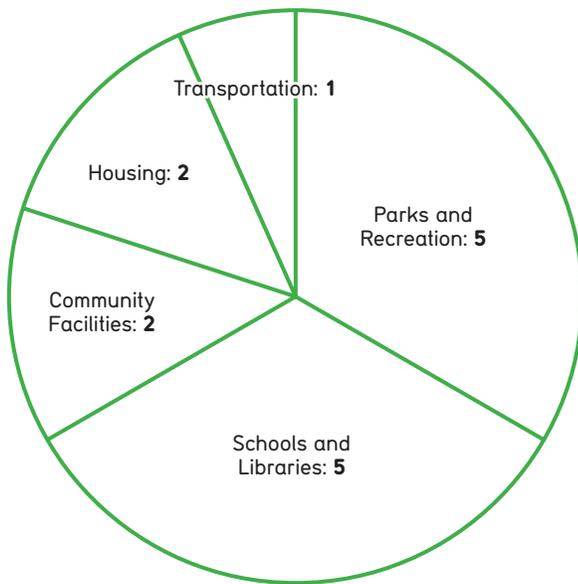
Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 33 PB voters?

(N=1,239)

Public Safety: **3%**

Transportation: **2%**

Health & Sanitation: **2%**

Youth:
7%

Community
Facilities:
8%

Housing: **10%**

Schools and
Libraries: **47%**

Parks and
Recreation:
21%
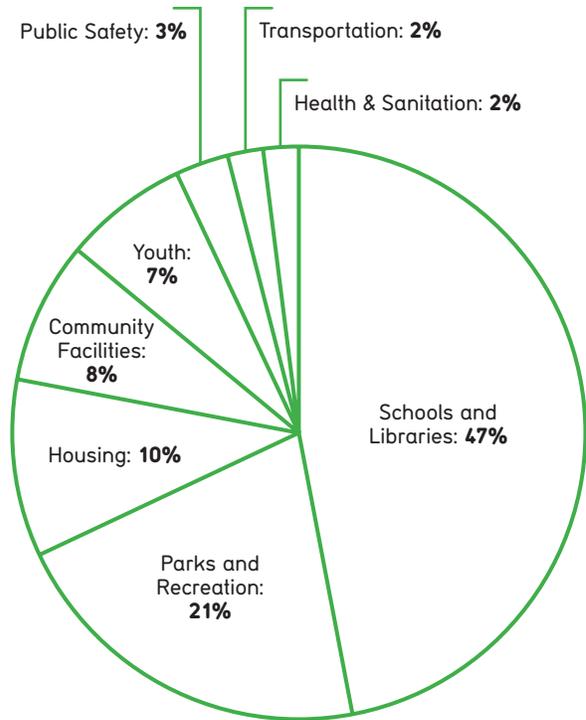
Note: One of District 33's projects which was categorized on the PB ballot as Parks & Recreation (NYCHA Playground Repairs) could also appropriately be categorized in the Housing category.

Winning Projects

5 Winning Projects: District 33

1,981 voters cast a ballot for up to five projects in District 33. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
NYCHA Playground Repairs	1008	51%	$400,000
Renovations to Re-Open the Gowanus Community Center	706	36%	$325,000
McGolrick Park Playground Reconstruction	649	33%	$450,000
BOOKlyn Shuttle – Book Bus and Education Center	636	32%	$198,000
PS 261 Bathroom Renovations	625	32%	$175,000
Total			$1,548,000

Additionally Funded Project

In addition to the winning projects, the Council Member dedicated funds to the following project which was on the ballot but did not win. This indicates the additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote. According to the Council Member's office, an additional PB project—fencing for a playground in Thomas Green Park—will be funded through the redistribution of capital discretionary funds that had already been allocated by the Council Member to the park. PB helped to identify this particular need and guide the priorities for those previously awarded funds.

Project	Cost
Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow – Computer Lab	$50,000
Total	$50,000
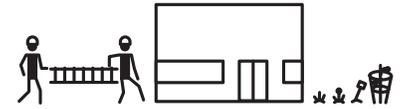
A Winning Project from District 33
Renovations to Re-Open the Gowanus Community Center
$325,000
706 out of 1,981 votes

The nearly 3,000 residents[79] of Gowanus Houses, a public housing complex, have not had an operational community center for years. The funding from this project will be put toward the renovations necessary to reopen the center, reinstating a crucial resource for residents.

The importance of such a space in the community was made clear in the aftermath of Hurricane sandy, which left many residents of Gowanus Houses and their neighbors stranded without heat, hot water, or functioning elevators. In this period of crisis the community center was temporarily opened, and served as a space for collecting and disseminating supplies, sharing information, and coordinating relief efforts.

Reopening the community center will allow it to serve its purpose as a resource for Gowanus Houses residents, and also for the broader community. "For ten years the Gowanus Center has been closed, " said Carrie Gadsen, Sargent of Arms for the Gowanus Houses Tenant Association. "But during Sandy the center was a relief center...we want to open it up to be a cooling center, plus other activities for the children, the elderly....a computer lab."[80]

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 33

In its second cycle participating in PB, District 33 was successful in engaging more residents who identify as Black or African-American, as well as lower income residents and those with lower levels of formal education. People identifying as Asian, Black or Latino/a constituted a greater percentage of PB voters than voters in the 2013 local elections. The district also saw active participation by public housing residents. There was a decrease in participation by residents whose primary language is not English, indicating that the district would benefit in the future from the provision of additional translated materials and interpretation at meetings. The district saw a small decrease in participation this cycle, pointing to the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. Council Member Stephen Levin allocated over $1.5 million to the 5 winning projects in the district, and an additional $50,000 toward one project that was on the ballot but did not win.

A neighborhood assembly at a community garden
in District 33.

District 38

Council Member Carlos Menchaca

Manhattan

Queens

Brooklyn

Red Hood Library
Community Garden

Access to the Future:
Technology for Local Schools
(PS 15, PS 24, PS 503, and MS821)

NYPD Surveillance
Cameras in Sunset Park
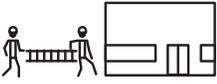
Air Conditioning Wiring
for PS 10 and PS 15

A Community Room at Sunset
Park Library
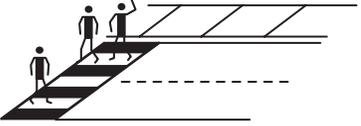
Street Improvements and
Resurfacing of Roads in CB7

District 38

Council Member Carlos Menchaca

Council Member Carlos Menchaca's district includes the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Red Hook, Sunset Park, South Slope, and parts of Windsor Terrace, Borough Park, Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge. The majority of district residents are people of color, with 44% identifying as Hispanic or Latina/o, 35% as Asian, and 5% as Black or African-American. 19% of residents identify as White. More than half of residents (53%) were born outside the U.S., and nearly three-quarters (74%) report that their primary language is not English, with 33% listing Spanish and 41% indicating another language. Nearly two-thirds of people over age 25 in the district have formal education of a high school diploma or GED or less, with a quarter indicating that they have less than a 9th grade education. The majority of district residents (59%) report a household income below $50,000 a year, with nearly one in five (19%) earning less than $15,000 a year.

This was District 38's first time participating in PB. The process was initiated at the beginning of this PB cycle by then-Council Member Sara Gonzalez. When Council Member Menchaca won the Council seat in the 2013 elections, he continued the process. As a result of extensive outreach and engagement efforts, boosted by community-based organizations, the district had the highest voter turnout of any of the 10 participating districts. The district was successful in engaging immigrants, people of color, low- income people and non-English speakers. More than half of surveyed voters (57%) were born outside the U.S., and more than a third (36%) said that they were not U.S. citizens. Nearly two -thirds of the ballots in the district were cast in a language other than English. Most of the projects on the district's ballots were for schools and libraries, with others for parks and recreation, transportation and public safety.

> *"It has been truly inspiring to watch the 38th District community engage in their inaugural year of participatory budgeting...My hope is that everyone feels welcomed as we open the doors to our city government budget. The goals are simple: empower people to craft and make decisions to spend public funds for community projects and advocate for more accountability, equity and inclusion throughout other functions of city government."*[81]

(Council Member Carlos Menchaca)

District 38 Overall Population:
165,479

Number of PB Participants:
3,236

Neighborhoods:
Red Hook, Sunset Park, South Slope, and parts of Windsor Terrace, Borough Park, Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

3,236 people

336 neighborhood assembly participants

43 Budget Delegates

2,909 voters

23% of PB voters identified as Asian.

Compared to 10% of voters in the 2013 election.

Who Participated in District 38?

In District 38, PB engaged 3,236 people, including: 336 neighborhood assembly participants, 43 budget delegates, and 2,909 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

- The percentage of PB voters who identified as Asian was more than double the percentage of Asian voters in the 2013 local elections (23% of PB voters compared with 10% of voters in the 2013 election). Surveyed Asian participants were underrepresented when compared with district residents, as 35% of the voting-age district population identifies as Asian. However, there were challenges collecting Chinese-language surveys. 41% of ballots cast were in Chinese.

- A greater percentage of people who identified as Latino/a voted in PB as compared to the 2013 local elections (45% of PB voters compared with 34% of voters in local elections). This compares with 39% of voting-age district residents.

- People who identified as Black or African-American voted in PB at a rate similar to their representation in the district (6% of PB voters and 4% of voting-age district residents) and voters in the 2013 local elections (9%).

Language and Country of Birth

- People who listed Spanish as their primary language were represented among PB voters at a percentage consistent with district residents (34% of voters and 33% of the voting-age district population).

- 64% of ballots were cast in a language other than English (24% in Spanish and 41% in Chinese). This compares with 74% of voting-age people in the district population who have a primary language other than English. Among surveyed voters, a greater percentage listed English as their primary language (51%), primarily due to challenges collecting Chinese-language surveys.

- 16% of surveyed voters listed Chinese as their primary language. 41% of ballots cast were Chinese.

- A majority of PB voters were born outside the U.S. (57%). This compares with 65% of voting-age district residents.

Gender

- Women made up the majority of participants in PB (62% of assembly participants and 70% of voters.

- Women made up a greater percent of PB voters than voters in the 2013 local elections (70% of PB voters compared with 55% of voters in the 2013 elections).

Income

- A third (33%) of PB voters reported an annual household income less than $15,000. This compares with 19% of households in the district.

- 65% of PB voters reported an annual household income less than $50,000. This compares with 59% of the voting-age district population.

Age

- A greater percentage of people between the ages of 18 and 24 voted in PB than in the 2013 local elections (9% of PB voters were between 18 and 24, compared with 3% of 2013 election voters). This compares with 13% of PB-eligible* district residents.

- Older voters were underrepresented in the PB process. 6% of surveyed PB voters were 65 years and older, compared with 23% of voters in the 2013 election and 11% of PB-eligible district residents.

45% of PB voters identified as Latino/a.

Compared to **34%** of voters in local elections and 39% of voting-age district residents.

64% of ballots were cast in a language other than English.

Voters reporting household incomes under $15,000
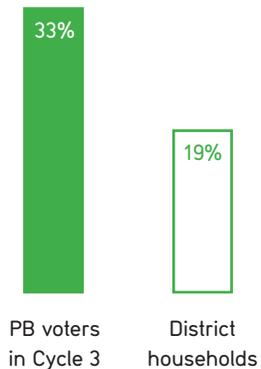
33% — PB voters in Cycle 3

19% — District households

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

Education

- People with higher levels of education were overrepresented among PB votes as compared to the overall district population. 35% of PB voters over the age of 25 had a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 23% of the overall district population.

Children are busy at an arts and crafts table at the Project Expo in District 38.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 38?

Previous Engagement with PB

• 86% of surveyed voters had not participated in this cycle of PB other than by voting.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

• More than a third (36%) of PB voters reported that they were not registered to vote in regular elections because they were not US citizens.

• 65% of neighborhood assembly participants and 57% of PB voters were registered to vote.

• Among PB voters who were registered to vote in regular elections, 23% were unlikely voters (reporting that they never, rarely or sometimes vote).

Working with Others in the Community

• 75% of PB voters reported that they had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems.

> More than a third (36%) of PB voters reported that they were not US citizens.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 38?

People in District 38 were most likely to hear about neighborhood assemblies and the PB vote through their social networks (families, friends and word of mouth). Community groups played a major role as well, particularly during the assembly phase. Online sources informed more people about the Assemblies than the vote. People also found out about PB through the Council Member, flyers and posters. Many PB voters also found out about the process through schools.*

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 38	
Word of mouth, family or friends	42%
Community group	26%
Online source	22%
Flyer/poster	19%
City Council Member	10%

How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 38	
Word of mouth, family or friends	37%
School	29%
City Council Member	12%
Flyer/poster	12%
Community group	10%
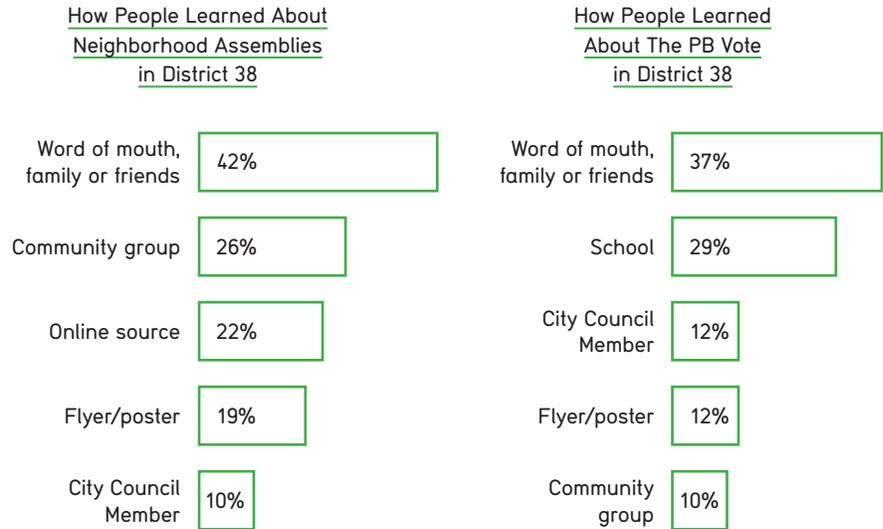
* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

Council Member Menchaca casts his ballot at a PB vote site in Red Hook.

What were the priorities of District 38 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 38 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 31 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 38.

19
Projects listed on the ballot

6
Projects selected by voters

Projects on District 38 Ballot

Total Number: 19
Average Cost: $438,497

Transportation: **2**
Public Safety: **2**
Parks and Recreation: **4**
Schools and Libraries: **11**
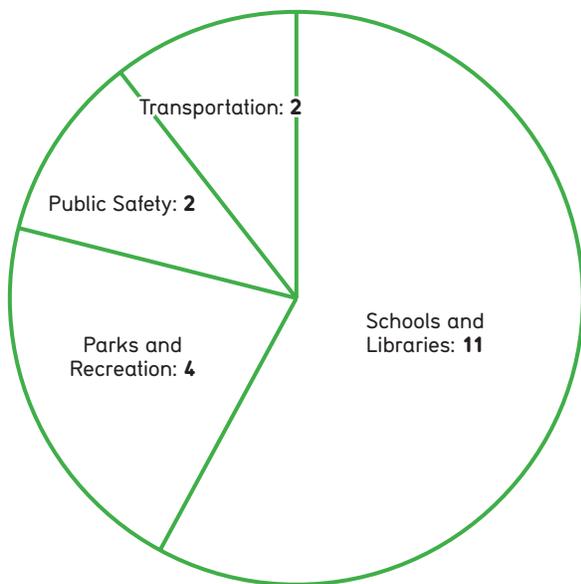
Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 38 PB voters?

(N=608)

Transportation: **3%**
Youth: **3%**
Community Facilities: **4%**
Health & Sanitation: **2%**
Parks and Recreation: **6%**
Housing: **7%**
Public Safety: **18%**
Schools and Libraries: **58%**
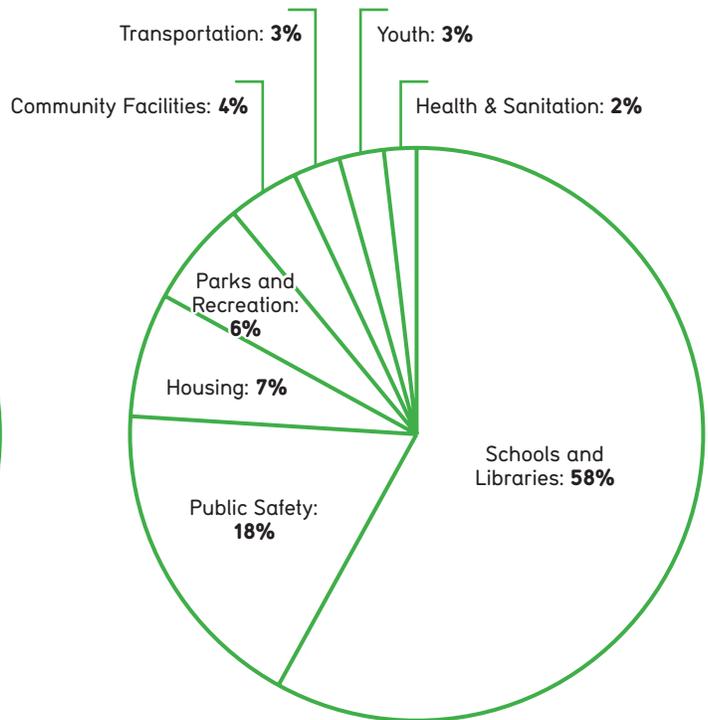
A Winning Project from District 38
Red Hook Library Community Garden
$85,000
486 out of 2,909 votes

Funds allocated through this project will go to revitalizing the Redhook Library Community Garden, bringing it to life as a functioning and vibrant community space. "[The garden] is a big part of the community," says budget delegate Sheryl Braxton.[82] "It brings people together, it's also education for us, and on top of that, we can count of something that's there, that can be utilized in the community."

Sandra Sutton, Director of the Red Hook branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, looks forward to the garden renovations. "It's a beautiful garden," she says, "it's just waiting for children, and adults, and people to come in and use it."[83] "I'm really anxious to get kids in here," Braxton says, "to get programs going, to get people interested in doing things, to have it open all day...I just want to see it utilized, I really would like to see that happen."

Winning Projects

6 Winning Projects: District 38

2,909 voters cast a ballot for up to five projects in District 38. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
NYPD Surveillance Cameras in Sunset Park	1890	65%	$600,000
Street Improvements and Resurfacing of Roads in CB7	1070	37%	$350,000
A Community Room at Sunset Park Library	951	33%	$60,000
Access to the Future: Technology for Local Schools	812	28%	$675,000
Air Conditioning Wiring for PS 10 and PS 15	526	18%	$400,000
Red Hook Library Community Garden	486	17%	$85,000
Total			$2,170,000
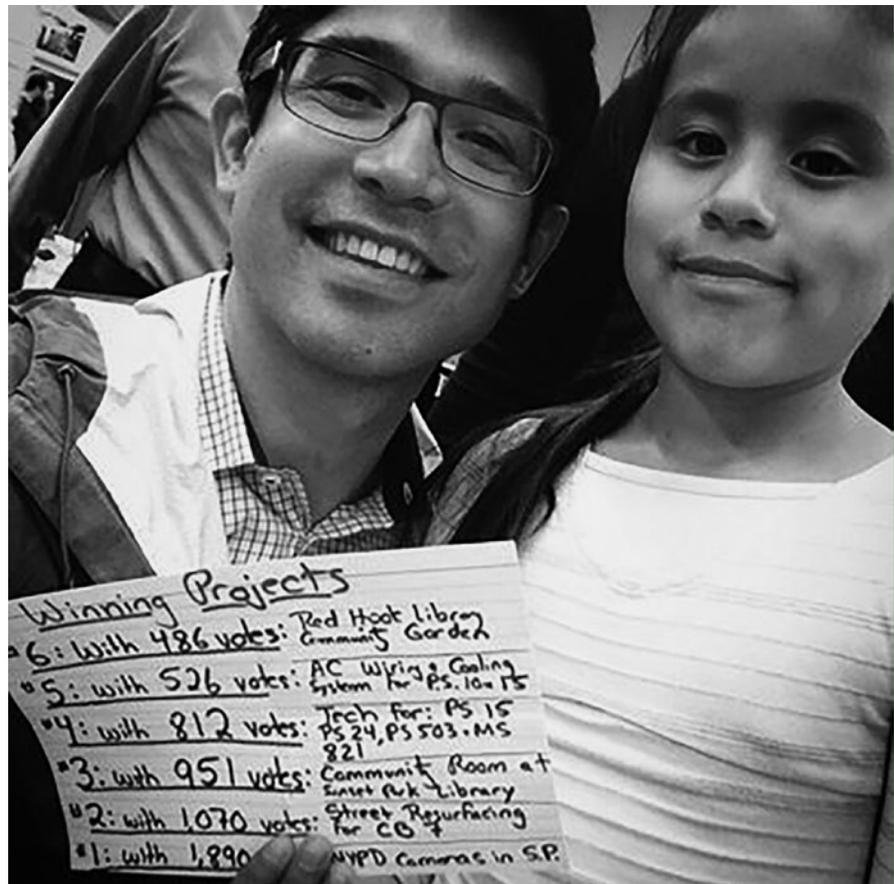
Council Member Menchaca and a young district resident display winning projects in District 38.

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 38

Dedicated outreach and engagement efforts, frequently in conjunction with community based organizations, led to District 38—in its first cycle of PB—mobilizing the greatest number of PB voters of all the participating districts. The district saw a change in political leadership during the process, which begun under then-Council Member Sara Gonzalez and was continued by Council Member Menchaca, who maintained the commitment to dedicate $2 million to the process.

      The district was successful in engaging many traditionally disenfranchised communities, including low-income people (a third of PB voters reported an annual household income less than $25,000), people of color, immigrants (the majority of participants were born outside the U.S.), non-citizens (more than a third of PB voters reported they were not U.S. citizens), and non-English speakers (nearly two-thirds of ballots were cast in a language other than English). The district established some best practices to be drawn on in future cycles, including: setting up vote sites in public locations with high foot traffic, partnering with community based organizations, providing translated materials, having interpretation at meetings, and ensuring that vote sites staffed by people who spoke a language other than English. Council Member Menchaca dedicated nearly $2.2 million to the six winning projects in the district.

Community members in District 38 learn about the PB process at a neighborhood assembly.

District 39

Council Member Brad Lander

Manhattan

Queens

Secure the Future:
Laptops at PS 130, 230
and 321

Industrial Shredder for
Community Compost Project

Outdoor Plaza at
John Jay Educational
Campus

Street Safety Improvements on
4th Ave, 8–18th Streets

Repair and Improve Three
Pathways in Prospect Park
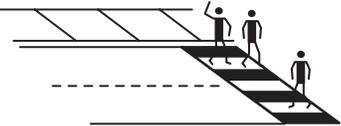
Pedestrian Safety on McDonald Ave
at Ft. Hamilton

Raising the (Green) Roof
@ Windsor Terrace Library

Brooklyn

District 39

Council Member Brad Lander

Council Member Brad Lander's district includes the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Columbia Waterfront, Gowanus, Park Slope, Windsor Terrace, Borough Park and Kensington. Two-thirds of district residents identify as White, 18% as Hispanic or Latino/a, 13% as Asian and 6% Black or African-American . The district also has a large Bangladeshi community, concentrated in Kensington.[84] A large percentage (41%) of the district speaks a language other than English as their primary language, with 13% listing Spanish and 28% listing another language. Two-thirds of district residents report annual household incomes of $50,000 or more, and more than a third (39%) have incomes of $100,000 or more. The majority of district residents (57%) have a Bachelor's, graduate or professional degree.

District 39 is now in its third cycle of PB, as Council Member Lander was one of the four Council Members to pilot PB in New York City. Demographically, this cycle of PB looked relatively similar to the past two cycles. There were small increases in participation by PB voters who identified as Asian, Black, African-American, Hispanic or Latina/o. As in past cycles, and in keeping with the overall district demographics, PB participants were mostly college educated, U.S.-born, and English speaking. The district saw a decrease in overall PB participant numbers, indicating the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. There were projects on District 39's ballot for schools and library, parks and recreation, public safety and community facilities.

> *"I'm thrilled to see so many of our colleagues joining in this practice of revolutionary civics in action, and am humbled by the participation of thousands of my constituents in the PB process as creative, thoughtful, and engaged stewards of our public realm."*[85]

(**Council Member Brad Lander**, District 39)

District 39 Overall Population:
168,124

Number of PB Participants:
2,509

Neighborhoods:
Borough Park
Cobble Hill
Carroll Gardens
Columbia
 Waterfront
Gowanus
Kensington
Park Slope
Windsor Terrace

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

2,509 people

(3,107 in Cycle 2,
2,752 in Cycle 1)

314
neighborhood
assembly
participants

(457 in Cycle 2,
499 in Cycle 1)

56
Budget
Delegates

(50 in Cycle 2,
102 in Cycle 1)

2,247
voters

(2,821 in Cycle 2,
2,213 in Cycle 1)

9% of PB voters identified as Asian.

Compared to 6% in Cycle 2, 4% of voters in the 2013 local elections, and 11% of voting-age district residents.

Who Participated in District 39?

In District 39, PB Engaged 2,509 people, including: 314 neighborhood assembly participants, 56 budget delegates and 2,247 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

- A greater percentage of people who identify as Asian voted in PB this cycle compared to last (9% compared to 6%). This is compared to 4% of voters in the 2013 local elections, and 11% of voting-age district residents.

- PB voters who identified as Hispanic or Latina/o were underrepresented compared to voting-age district residents and voters in the 2013 elections (5% of PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latina/o, compared to 16% of voting-age residents and 9% of local election voters). This compares to 4% of PB voters last cycle.

- People who identified as Black or African-American were underrepresented at the PB vote when compared to the voting-age population of the district and the 2013 local elections (3% of PB voters compared to 6% of voting-age district residents and 7% of local election voters.) This compares to 2% of PB voters last cycle.

- A greater percentage of people who identified as Asian, Black or African-American, or Hispanic or Latina/o participated in the neighborhood assemblies as compared to the PB vote.

- People who identify as White were overrepresented in the PB vote compared with the voting-age population of the district (81% and 65%, respectively).

Language and Country of Birth

- People who listed English as their primary language were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants (90%) and PB voters (95%) compared with the overall voting-age district population (60%). This compares with 94% of Cycle 2 voters who listed English as their primary language.

- People who were born outside of the U.S. were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (22%) and PB vote (17%) compared with the voting-age district population (36%). This compares with 15% of PB voters last cycle.

Gender

- Women made up a greater percentage of surveyed PB voters (60%) than neighborhood assembly participants (53%).

- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters (60%) than voters in the 2013 local elections (55%).

Income

- A greater percentage of PB voters reported household incomes above $150,000 this cycle compared with Cycle 2 (45% this cycle and 36% in Cycle 2). This compares with 22% of the households in the district.

- A greater percentage of neighborhood assembly attendees report household incomes below $50,000 (39%) compared with PB voters (11%). This compares with 34% of the households in the district.

Households reporting incomes under $50,000
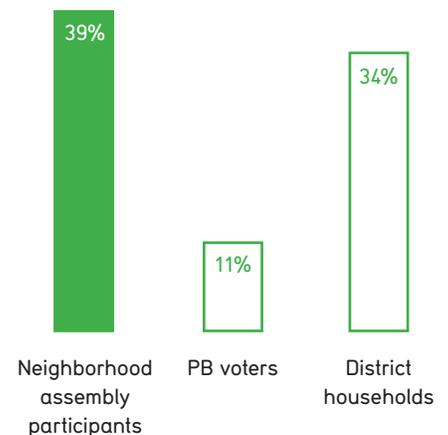
	39%	11%	34%
	Neighborhood assembly participants	PB voters	District households

Age

- People 65 years and older were overrepresented at neighborhood assemblies (22%) compared to the PB-eligible district population (11%), but voted at lower rates in PB compared to the 2013 local elections (9% of PB voters and 17% of 2013 local election voters).

- People 25 years and under were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (9%) and PB vote (2%) compared with the PB-eligible* district population (14%).

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

Education

- People who reported having a Bachelor's degree or graduate/professional degree were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (70%) and PB vote (90%) compared with the district population (57%). This is consistent with PB voters last cycle.

Council Member Lander talks with community members at a neighborhood assembly in District 39.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 39?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 51% of neighborhood assembly participants and 40% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB.

- 90% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB prior to voting.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 88% of neighborhood assembly participants and 93% of PB voters were registered to vote.

- 4% of neighborhood assembly participants and 7% of PB voters were not registered to vote because they were not U.S. citizens.

Working with Others in the Community

- 32% of neighborhood assembly participants and 56% of PB voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems before PB.

51% of neighbor-hood assembly participants and 40% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB.

4% of neighbor-hood assembly participants and 7% of PB voters were not registered to vote because they were not U.S. citizens.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 39?

District 39 was unique among participating districts in that people were most likely to find out about both the neighborhood assemblies and the PB vote from online sources (email, Facebook, twitter or other online sources). The Council Member also played a major role in getting out the vote, as did social networks (word of mouth, family and friends). Community groups contributed to spreading the word about PB, particularly during the assembly phase. Many voters also heard about PB through a school.*

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 39		How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 39	
Online source	50%	Online source	40%
City Council Member	40%	Word of mouth, family or friends	34%
Word of mouth, family or friends	19%	City Council Member	32%
Community group	14%	School	24%

* Note that school was not an answer option on the neighborhood assembly survey.

A poster designed to collect PB ideas in District 39.

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What were the priorities of District 39 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 39 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 39 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 39.

13
Projects listed on the ballot

7
Projects selected by voters
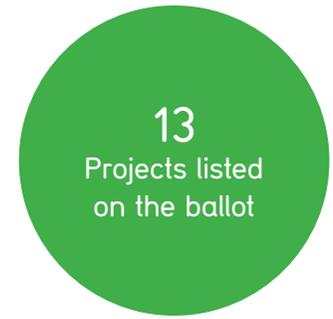
Projects on District 39 Ballot

Total Number: 13
Average Cost: $194,615

Transportation: **1**

Community Facilities: **2**

Schools and Libraries: **4**

Public Safety: **3**

Parks and Recreation: **3**
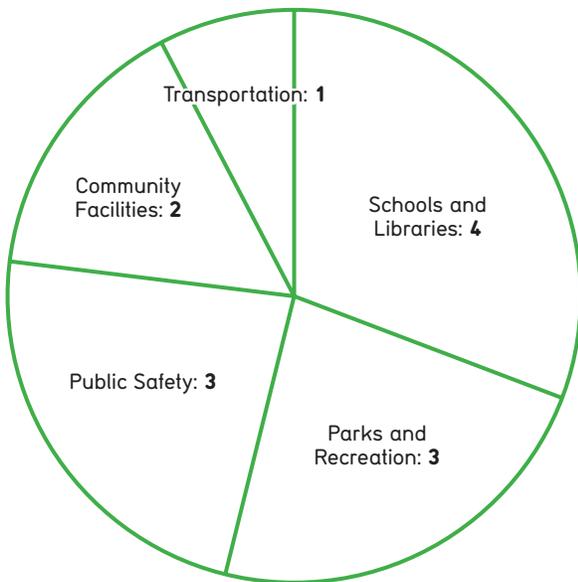
Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 39 PB voters?

(N=1,806)

Youth: **3%**

Health & Sanitation: **2%**

Housing: **1%**

Community Facilities: **5%**

Transpor-tation: **6%**

Parks and Recreation: **10%**

Schools and Libraries: **45%**

Public Safety: **19%**

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Winning Projects

7 Winning Projects: District 39

2,247 voters cast a ballot for up to five projects in District 39. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
Street Safety Improvements on 4th Ave, 8-18th Streets	1202	53%	$300,000
Secure the Future: Laptops at PS 130, 230 & 321	1150	51%	$195,000
Pedestrian Safety on McDonald Ave at Ft Hamilton	984	44%	$300,000
Repair and Improve Three Pathways in Prospect Park	968	43%	$215,000
Raising the (Green) Roof @ Windsor Terrace Library	931	41%	$250,000
Industrial Shredder for Community Compost Project	836	37%	$105,000
Outdoor Plaza at John Jay Educational Campus	714	32%	$150,00
Total			$1,515,000

Additionally Funded Project

In addition, to the winning projects, the Council Member also dedicated funds the following project which was on the PB ballot but did not win. This indicates the additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote.

Project	Cost
12 Electronic "Bus Location" Signs at B67/69 Stops	$240,000
Total	$240,000

Lessons Learned/ Summary from District 39

The third cycle of PB in District 39 was demographically similar to the previous two in many ways. There were small increases in PB voters who identify as Asian, Black or African-American and Hispanic or Latina/o; though these community members remain underrepresented when compared to the voting-age population of the district. PB participants were mostly college educated, U.S.-born, and English speaking. While the district population also skews in these directions, PB participants tended to have higher levels of formal education, and were more likely to be born in the U.S. and to speak English. The district saw an increase in PB voters who reported household incomes above $150,000, and people in this income bracket were overrepresented compared to the overall district population. There was a decrease in the number of PB participants this cycle as compared to last, indicating the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts in future cycles. The district was unique in that both neighborhood assembly attendees and PB voters were most likely to find out about PB through an online source. Council Member Lander allocated more than $1.5 million to the 7 winning projects from District 39's ballots, plus $240,000 to one project which was on the ballot but did not win.

Posters explaining PB projects are on display at a Project Expo in District 39.

District 44

Council Member David Greenfield

Brooklyn

Resurface the worst streets in Borough Park

Beautify the Blocks of Borough Park (Planting 100 Trees)

Technology Upgrades at Brooklyn Public Library branches of Midwood, Mapleton and Ryder
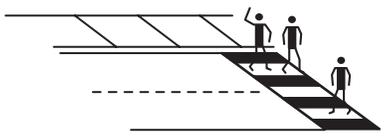
Resurface the worst streets in Midwood

District 44

Council Member David Greenfield

Council Member David Greenfield's district includes the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Borough Park, Midwood and Bensonhurst. More than three-quarters (77%) of district residents identify as White. In addition 13% of residents identify as Asian, 9% as Hispanic or Latino/a and 1% as Black or African-American.* The district also has a large Orthodox Jewish community that primarily speaks Yiddish at home; only 34% of residents in the district primarily speak English despite 59% being born in the U.S. More than half (53%) of residents have formal education levels of a high school diploma or less and 44% have incomes below $35,000.

Limited data was collected from District 44 due to low survey return rates, so the information gathered provides a snapshot of only some PB participants. Those who did complete a survey were more likely to be White, English-speaking, born in the U.S. and have a bachelor's, graduate or professional degree than general voting-age district population. Compared to last cycle, there was an increase in surveyed PB voters who had less than a Bachelor's degree and who reported household below incomes $35,000. The district saw a decrease in overall participant numbers this cycle, indicating a need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. The majority of the projects on District 44's ballot were in the parks and recreation category, with other projects for transportation and schools and libraries.

> *"Nobody knows their block or neighborhood like the residents who live there, so it only makes sense to give the public more say over the city budget...That's why I am proud to once again bring this great experiment in open government to the residents of my district and really give them a voice in how their tax dollars are reinvested in our community."*[87]

(Council Member David Greenfield, District 44)

District 44 Overall Population:
168,385

Number of PB Participants:
1,270

Neighborhoods:
Borough Park
Midwood
Bensonhurst

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* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

1,270 people
(1,719 in Cycle 2)

39 neighborhood assembly participants
(97 in Cycle 2)

12 Budget Delegates
(15 in Cycle 2)

1,222 voters
(1,610 in Cycle 2)

Who Participated in District 44?

In District 44, PB engaged 1,270 people, including: 39 neighborhood assembly participants, 12 budget delegates, and 1,222 voters. Demographic information is collected at key points during the PB process. District 44's surveys, particularly during the vote, had very low rates of return. As a result, that data cannot be used to draw conclusions about overall participation in the district, and provides only a snapshot of some participating district residents.

Race/Ethnicity

- People who identified as White made up the majority of surveyed neighborhood assembly participants (78%) and PB voters (86%). This compares to 74% of voting-age district residents. Last cycle, 76% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 94% of voters identified as White.

- 3% of surveyed PB voters identified as Asian, compared to 14% of voting-age district residents.

- 10% of surveyed PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latina/o, consistent with the voting-age district population. This compares with 3% of surveyed voters last cycle, and 5% of 2013 local election voters.

Language and Country of Birth

- People who reported English as their primary language were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants (96%) and PB voters (86%) compared to the voting-age district population (33%).

- A greater percentage of people who reported English as their primary language participated in this cycle than in Cycle 2 (86% compared to 74%).

- People who were born in the United States were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants (67%) and PB voters (73%) compared to the voting-age district population (46%).

Gender

- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters this cycle than in Cycle 2 (71% compared to 50%).

- Men and women participated in the neighborhood assemblies at similar rates (52% and 48%, respectively).

Income

- A greater percentage of surveyed PB voters reported household incomes below $35,000 this cycle than in Cycle 2 (74% compared to 36%). This compares to 44% of households in the district.

- A greater percentage of people who reported household incomes above $50,000 participated in a neighborhood assembly (57%) than voted in PB (21%).

- People who reported household incomes of less than $35,000 were overrepresented among surveyed PB voters (74%) compared to the 2013 local elections (33%).

Age

- People between the ages of 15 and 24 were overrepresented at the PB vote compared to the PB-eligible district population (39% compared to 20%).

- A lesser percentage of people between the ages of 25 and 54 participated in this cycle compared to Cycle 2 (15% and 51%, respectively).

- A greater percentage of people 65 years and older participated in a neighborhood assembly (44%) and voted in PB (37%) than the 2013 local elections (27%). This compares to 17% of district residents.

Women made up 71% of surveyed PB voters this cycle.
Compared to 50% in Cycle 2.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

Education

- People with Bachelor's or graduate degrees were overrepresented at neighborhood assemblies compared to district residents (48% and 28%, respectively). This compares to 22% of surveyed PB voters.

- A greater percentage of people over 25 without a college degree voted in PB this cycle (79%) than in Cycle 2 (57%).

- People among all education levels voted in PB at a similar percentage to the district population.

Community members brainstorm ideas at a neighborhood assembly in District 44.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 44?

Previous Engagement with PB

• 87% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB prior to voting.

• 30% of neighborhood assembly participants and 6% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

• 96% of neighborhood assembly participants and 68% of surveyed PB voters were registered to vote. This compares to 93% of neighborhood assembly participants 79% of PB voters last cycle.

• 37% of surveyed PB voters were unlikely voters in regular elections (reporting that they never, rarely or sometimes vote). This is comparable to last cycle.

Working with Others in the Community

• 48% of neighborhood assembly participants and 92% of surveyed PB voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems. This compares to 59% of assembly participants and 70% of PB voters in Cycle 2.

> **37%** of surveyed PB voters were unlikely voters in regular elections.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 44?

Due to the small number of surveys collected in District 44, broad conclusions cannot be drawn about the impact of various outreach and engagement strategies. However, from those surveys that were returned, the City Council Member, online sources, social networks (family, friends and word of mouth) and flyers and posters arose as the primary ways that people found out about PB in the district in both phases, with the addition of mailing and phone calls in the assembly phase.

How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 44

Source	Percentage
A mailing	57%
City Council Member	17%
Phone call	17%
Word of mouth, family or friends	13%
Community group	9%
Online source	9%

How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 44

Source	Percentage
Online source	38%
Word of mouth, family or friends	35%
Flyer/poster	30%
Community group	23%
City Council Member	20%

What were the priorities of District 44 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 44 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 44 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 44.

14
Projects listed on the ballot

4
Projects selected by voters
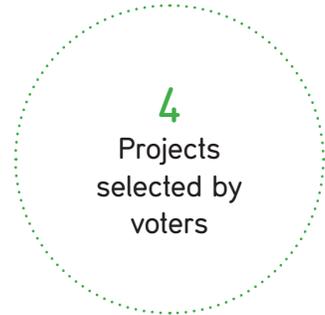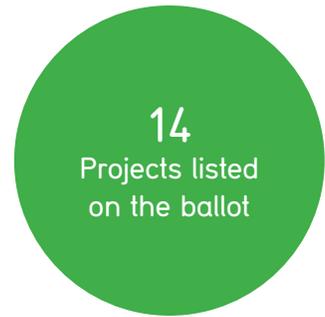
Projects on District 44 Ballot

Total Number: 14
Average Cost: $208,929

- Schools and Libraries: 3
- Parks and Recreation: 7
- Transportation: 4
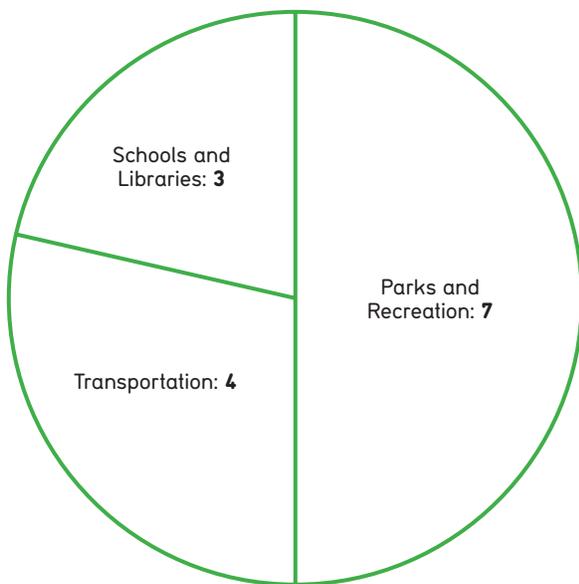
Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 44 PB voters?

(N=69)

- Youth: **1%**
- Health & Sanitation: **7%**
- Community Facilities: **7%**
- Housing: **12%**
- Transportation: **23%**
- Schools and Libraries: **19%**
- Parks and Recreation: **13%**
- Public Safety: **17%**

145
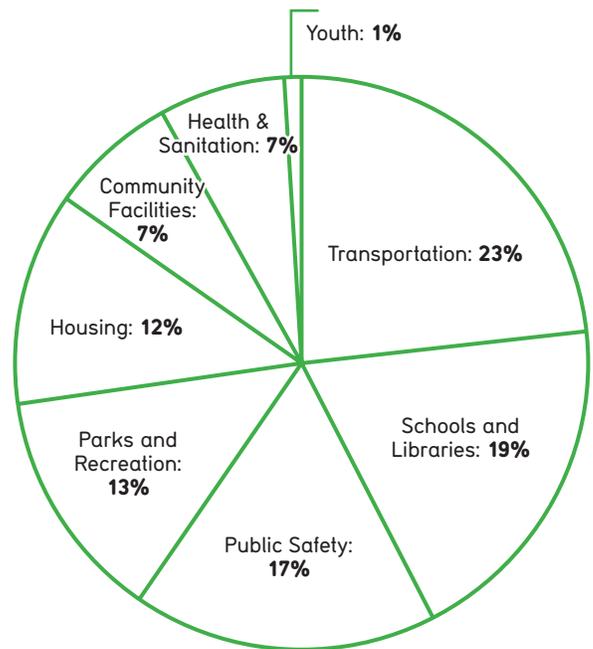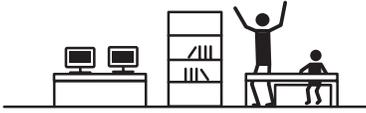
A Winning Project from District 44
Technology Upgrades at Brooklyn
Public Library branches of Midwood,
Mapleton, and Ryder
$200,000
623 out of 1,222 votes

This project—the most popular among
PB voters in District 44 this year—will
benefit three Brooklyn Public Library
branches in the district. The $200,000
allocated by the Council Member
toward this project will go towards
improving the technology at Midwood,
Mapleton and Ryder libraries. Each
branch location will each receive
new computers and other needed
technology upgrades.

District residents who frequent
these libraries, some of whom may not
have access to computers or internet
at home, will be able to utilize this new
and improved equipment.

Winning Projects

4 Winning Projects: District 44

1,222 voters cast a ballot for their top five projects in District 44.
The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
Technology Upgrades at Brooklyn Public Library branches of Midwood, Mapleton, and Ryder	623	51%	$200,000
Resurface the Worst Streets in Borough Park	596	49%	$300,000
Resurface the Worst Streets in Midwood	511	42%	$300,000
Beautify the Blocks of Borough Park (Planting 100 Trees)	443	36%	$170,000
Total			$970,000

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 44

This was District 44's second cycle participating in PB. There were low rates of survey return in the district, so the data collected provides a snapshot of only some PB participants. Among those who were surveyed, there were small increases in PB voters who Hispanic, Latina/o or Asian. Asian participants were underrepresented as compared to the voting-age population of the district. PB participants were more likely to be English-speaking and born in the United States, as compared to voting age district residents. There was an increase this cycle in surveyed PB voters who had less than a Bachelor's degree and who reported household below incomes $35,000. The district also an overall decrease in participants this cycle, indicating the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts in future cycles. Council Member Greenfield allocated $970,000 to the four winning projects from the ballot.

District 45

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

Queens

Brooklyn

Computer Technology
for Seniors (Glenwood
Senior Center)

Public Safety
Camera Project
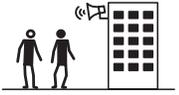
Public Announcement
System for Students
(PS 208)

Keep Schools Cool
(Air Conditioning System
in Cafeteria of PS 208)

District 45

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

Council Member Jumaane D. William's district in Brooklyn includes the neighborhoods of Flatbush, East Flatbush, Flatlands and parts of Midwood and Canarsie. Two thirds of district residents identify as Black or African-American, with 21% identifying as White, 9% as Hispanic or Latina/o, and 5% as Asian. Nearly half (48%) of residents were born outside the United States, and 30% report that English is not their primary language, with 7% indicating Spanish and 23% indicating another language. Nearly half of district residents over the age of 25 (47%) report a level of formal education at or below the level of high school diploma or GED. Around half of district residents (49%) have an annual household income of $50,000 or less.

    This is District 45's third PB cycle, as Council Member Williams was one of four Council Members to pilot PB in 2011-12. As with last cycle, people who identified as Black or African-American made up the majority of PB participants. Though participation by these community members decreased some from last cycle, they remain overrepresented in PB as compared to the overall district population. The district saw increased participation by lower-income residents, as well as strong turnout by people born outside the U.S., though non-English speakers remain underrepresented. Most of the projects on District 45's ballot were for schools and libraries, with one project each in the public safety and community facilities categories.

District 45 Overall Population:
152,160

Number of PB Participants:
1,107

Neighborhoods:
Flatbush
East Flatbush
Flatlands
Parts of Midwood
 and Canarsie

"As one of the first Council Members to implement Participatory Budgeting, I'm glad that, once again, residents can go to a voting booth… and cast their votes on the projects that they think deserve city funding…They have a direct say in the expenditure of one-million dollars, and I know that residents appreciate being able to give their input at their neighborhood assemblies and at the voting booth. The most important thing I do as a Council Member is to help pass a 70 billion dollar budget in the City Council, however, it's often the thing that the public is given the least amount of information about. Participatory Budgeting allows them to be a part of the process."[88]

(Council Member Jumaane D. Williams, District 45)

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

1,107 people
(1,035 in Cycle 2,
1,553 in Cycle 1)

58
neighborhood
assembly
participants
(120 in Cycle 2,
579 in Cycle 1)

19
Budget
Delegates
(39 in Cycle 2,
52 in Cycle 1)

1,065
voters
(940 in Cycle 2,
1,085 in Cycle 1)

65% of neighbor-hood assembly participants and **79%** of PB voters identified as Black or African-American.

Who Participated in District 45?

In District 45, PB Engaged 1,107 people, including: 58 neighborhood assembly participants, 19 budget delegates and 1,065 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

Race/Ethnicity

- People who identified as Black or African-American made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (65%) and PB voters (79%). While this is a decrease from PB last cycle (70% of assembly participants and 89% of voters) people who identified as Black or African- American remained overrepresented when compared with the voting-age population of the district (66%) and the 2013 local elections (71%).

- People who identified as White were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (30%) compared to voting-age district residents (19%). 14% of PB voters identified as White.

- PB voters identifying as Asian (2%) and Hispanic or Latina/o (4%) were underrepresented when compared to the voting-age population (4% Asian and 8% Hispanic or Latina/o).

Language and Country of Birth

- People who primarily speak a language other than English were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (3%) and PB vote (8%) compared to the overall population of the district (30%).

- People who were born outside of the U.S. voted in PB at similar percentages in Cycle 3 (53%) and Cycle 2 (52%). This compares to 59% of district residents.

- People born in the U.S. were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies compared to the general population (70% compared to 41%).

Gender

- Women made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (67%) and PB voters (69%).

- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters compared to 2013 local election voters (69% compared to 61%).

Income

- A greater percentage of people with incomes under $35,000 voted in PB (43%) compared to the voting-age population of the district (35%) and voters in the 2013 local elections (9%). This compares with and 40% of PB voters last cycle.

- People with incomes over $100,000 participated in the neighborhood assemblies at a higher rate than voted in PB (42% compared to 12%). This compares with 22% of households in the district.

Age

- A greater percentage of people 65 years and older voted in this cycle of PB (32%) compared with Cycle 2 (17%). This compares with 15% of PB-eligible district residents.

- People under 25 years old voted in PB at rates similar to their representation in the general population (15% of voters compared with 18% of the PB-eligible population).

Education

- People over 25 with education levels of a high school diploma or less were underrepresented at neighborhood assemblies (6%) and the PB vote (27%) compared to the overall population (47%).

- A greater percentage of people reported having less than a Bachelor's degree in PB this cycle compared to Cycle 2 (60% this cycle compared to 50% last cycle).

53% of PB voters this cycle were born outside of the U.S.
Compared to 52% in Cycle 2 and 59% of district residents.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 45?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 82% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB prior to voting. This compares to 71% of Cycle 2 voters who only participated in Cycle 2 by voting.

- 36% of neighborhood assembly participants and 17% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB. This compares to 34% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 37% of PB voters from Cycle 2 who had participated the previous cycle.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 90% of neighborhood assembly participants and 84% of PB voters were registered to vote. This compares with 78% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 83% of voters in Cycle 2.

- 3% of neighborhood assembly participants and 9% of PB voters were not registered to vote because they were not U.S. citizens.

Working with Others in the Community

- 24% of neighborhood assembly participants and 72% of voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems. This compares to 33% of neighborhood assembly participants and 50% of PB voters in Cycle 2 who had not worked with others to solve community problems.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 45?

Social networks (family, friends and word of mouth) were important in getting the word out about PB in District 45. Participants were most likely to hear about the Neighborhood Assemblies online, such as through e-mail, social media or other online sources, but such sources did not play a major role in vote outreach. Community groups, the Council Member's office, and outreach through flyers were also important for communicating about PB. Schools also helped inform people about the PB vote.
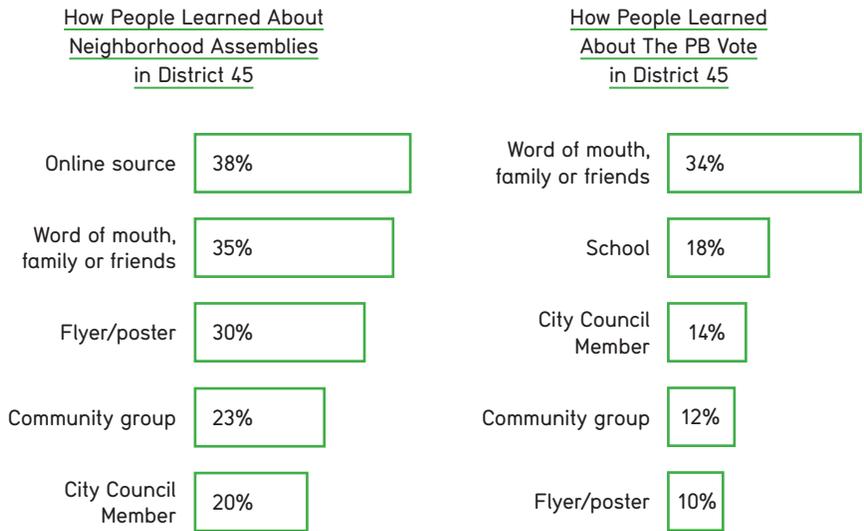
How People Learned About Neighborhood Assemblies in District 45

Online source	38%
Word of mouth, family or friends	35%
Flyer/poster	30%
Community group	23%
City Council Member	20%

How People Learned About The PB Vote in District 45

Word of mouth, family or friends	34%
School	18%
City Council Member	14%
Community group	12%
Flyer/poster	10%

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

6
Projects listed
on the ballot

4
Projects
selected by
voters
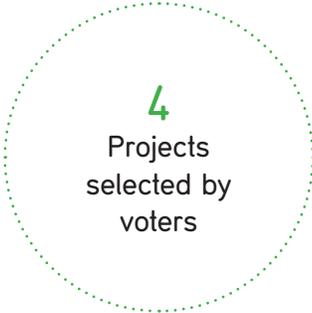
What were the priorities of District 45 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 45 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 45 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 45.

Projects on District 45 Ballot

Total Number: 6
Average Cost: $285,167

Public Safety: **1**

Community Facilities: **1**

Schools and Libraries: **4**
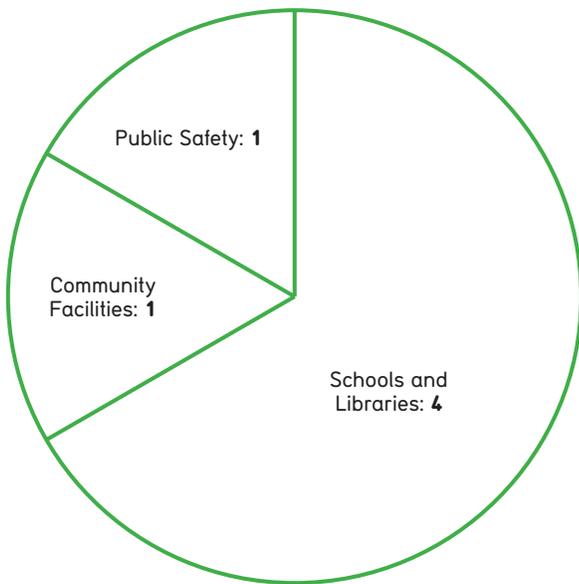
Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 45 PB voters?

(N=413)

Parks and Recreation: **4%**

Other: **4%**

Transportation: **2%**

Youth: **5%**

Health & Sanitation: **6%**

Community Facilities: **10%**

Housing: **12%**

Public Safety: **19%**

Schools and Libraries: **37%**
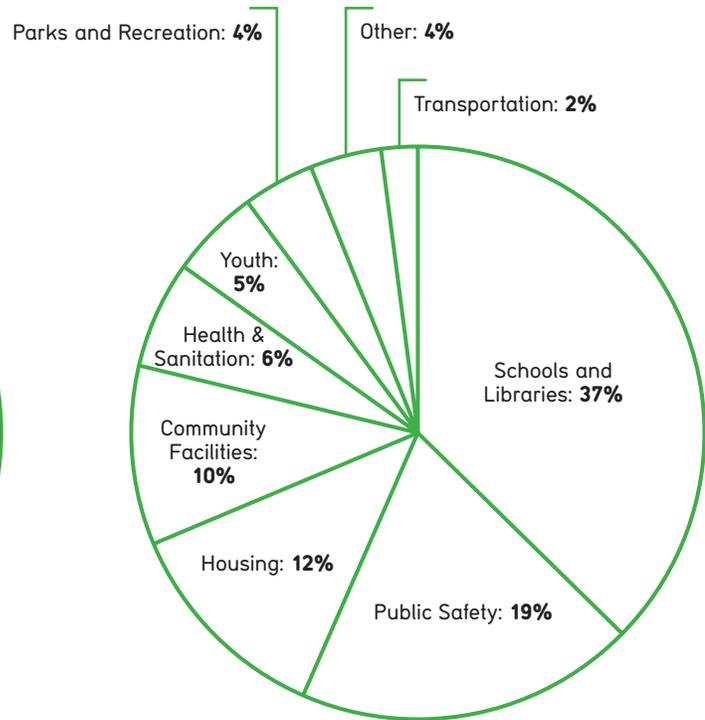
Winning Projects

4 Winning Projects: District 45

1,065 voters cast a ballot for their top five projects in District 45. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

Project	# of Voters	% of Voters	Cost
Keep Schools Cool (Air Conditioning System in Cafeteria of PS 208)	756	71%	$225,000
Computer Technology for Seniors (Glenwood Senior Center)	684	64%	$36,000
Public Announcement System for Students (PS 208)	648	61%	$500,000
Public Safety Camera Project	614	58%	$400,000
Total			$1,161,000

Additionally Funded Project

In addition to the winning projects, the Council Member also dedicated funds to one project which was on the PB ballot but did not win. This indicates additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote.

Project	Cost
East Flatbush's First Culinary Roof Top Farm	$50,000
Total	$50,000

A Winning Project from District 45
Computer Technology for Seniors
$36,000
684 out of 1,065 votes

The Glenwood Senior Center, which provides a variety of "healthy aging services and activities"[89] for older adults in District 45, is situated in Glenwood Houses, a New York City public housing development, and is operated by Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens. This project, which received the second highest number of votes from District 45 residents, will furnish the senior center with upgraded computer equipment. These upgrades will improve the access to technology for the seniors that frequent the center working toward, as the District 45 ballot describes, "improving computer literacy and helping them stay connected with family and friends."[90]

Lessons Learned/
Summary from District 45

In its third cycle of PB, District 45 saw a small increase in the number of overall participants in PB. The district successfully engaged more community members who reported incomes below $35,000. People who identified as Black or African-American again made up the majority of the participants, and, while there was a decrease in these community members from last cycle, they remained overrepresented in PB as compared to the general voting-age district population. While there was strong turnout by people born outside the U.S. (53%, nearly equal to the voting-age district population which is 59%), people who spoke a language other than English were underrepresented in the process, indicating that a focus on translated materials and interpretation at meetings in future cycles would be beneficial. Council Member Williams allocated nearly $1.2 million to the four winning projects, plus an additional $50,000 to one project which was one the ballot but did not win.

Participants at a neighborhood assembly in
District 45 review the goals of the evening.

Appendix

There are several things to note about the secondary data used throughout the report, particularly the Voter Activation Network (VAN) and Catalist data used to estimate voter demographics in local NYC elections.

The 2013 local voter data represents people who actually showed up and signed in at a voting location on Election Day in November 2013 in New York City's 5th, 8th,23rd, 31st , 32nd, 33rd, 38th, 39th, 44th and 45th City Council districts. Data is not available for which election contests, if any, the person actually voted for after signing in. Because districts 5, 32 and 44 were excluded from the analysis of citywide PB demographics (due to insufficient surveys) these districts were also excluded from the citywide 2013 local voter data. The citywide averages used in this report are based on a weighted average of the remaining seven districts.

Gender and age data is self-reported on voter registration sheets. Ethnicity and race data is based on models that take into account many factors including the person's census block, name and various consumer data. Income and years of education are represented by the median within a person's 2000 census block. This method tends to undercount high-income voters and low-income voters and over-count middle-income voters. This effect is mitigated slightly in New York City since census blocks are so small (usually they correspond to a city block). Despite the data's limitations this is the only comparative data available for local elections in such a specific geographic area.

Additionally, PB was only implemented in part of District31. However, the 2013 voter data for District 31 is for the entire district (this is the smallest geographic area available). This makes comparisons between the datasets difficult. However, both datasets were included in this report to compare PB voters with voters in typical local elections.

Census data was drawn from the 2010 Decennial Census (for racial demographic data) and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates (for other demographic data). Data for the full district population of participating districts was used in the overall demographic profiles of the districts. However, for comparison to PB participants, the census data for those district residents 18 and above

were used (we have called this group "voting-age" for the purposes of the report), as this is the closest approximation to the universe of PB voters (ages 16 and above) available for all demographic data used. For comparisons of age, the census data for district residents ages 15 and above was used to have a closer comparable age category (we have called this the "PB eligible" population, as it closely approximates the eligible pool of PB voters, who are 14 and up).

The PB survey data used in the citywide analysis excludes districts 5, 32, and 44 due to low response rates. The surveys of the remaining districts were weighted in this aggregate analysis according to their share of PB voters, as determined by ballots cast.

Pearson Chi-Square tests were conducted at a significance level of .05. All correlations are statistically significant.

Ballot data derives from ballots that were printed with barcodes this cycle and, in a centralized process, scanned to tabulate votes. This centralization provided standard, computerized ballot data for the first time. Available data included language of ballot, number of projects selected, and specific projects selected. Some ballots also came from known vote sites, and that data was also tabulated (for other ballots, the vote site was labeled unknown). Researchers further refined the data by categorizing vote sites and project types. This data allowed researchers to explore voting trends. No ballot data was collected from districts 23, 32, or 44, which counted ballots at their district offices.

Citywide Demographics		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=1,095	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=226	PB Voters N=7,416	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=1,039 BD: N=226 Voters: N=7,214	Female	53%	60%	–6%	65%	66%	+4%	57%	+9%
	Male	47%	39%	+5%	35%	34%	–4%	43%	–9%
	Other	N/A	1%	+1%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=1,203 BD: N=223 Voters: N=6,450	Asian	15%	10%	+3%	6%	11%	+3%	4%	+7%
	Black	22%	24%	–6%	30%	24%	+12%	32%	+8%
	Latino/a	26%	27%	+9%	20%	24%	+10%	14%	+10%
	White	35%	39%	–7%	42%	40%	–24%	47%	–7%
	Other	3%	6%	–1%	5%	5%	+1%	1%	+4%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=701 BD: N=193 Voters: N=6,014	Some H.S. or less	23%	9%	+4%	3%	13%	+8%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	24%	12%	–2%	9%	15%	+3%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	14%	14%	+0%	15%	14%	+2%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	6%	6%	+2%	5%	7%	+6%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	20%	24%	–2%	29%	22%	–12%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	14%	35%	–1%	41%	29%	–8%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=832 BD: N=204 Voters: N=5,749	Less than $10,000	11%	14%	+1%	7%	12%	+6%	2%	+10%
	$10,000–$14,999	7%	8%	–2%	4%	9%	+4%	2%	+7%
	$15,000–$24,999	11%	7%	–1%	8%	9%	+4%	8%	+6%
	$25,000–$34,999	9%	11%	+2%	6%	9%	+2%	9%	+0%
	$35,000–$49,999	12%	14%	+3%	17%	10%	+1%	17%	–7%
	$50,000–$74,999	15%	15%	+0%	25%	13%	+1%	29%	–16%
	$75,000–$99,999	11%	12%	+0%	10%	10%	–3%	22%	–12%
	$100,000–$149,000	13%	10%	–3%	11%	12%	–7%	10%	+2%
	$150,000 or more	12%	9%	+0%	12%	16%	–9%	1%	+15%
Age NA: N=1,016 BD: N=221 Voters: N=7,149	15 to 17 years	5%	13%	+5%	6%	6%	+5%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	3%	6%	+2%	1%	3%	+2%	4%	+3%
	20 to 24 years	9%	7%	+2%	5%	4%	+2%		
	25 to 34 years	23%	11%	–1%	20%	16%	+2%	13%	+3%
	35 to 44 years	18%	13%	–3%	16%	25%	–2%	56%	–1%
	45 to 54 years	16%	12%	–6%	15%	18%	–3%		
	55 to 64 years	13%	16%	+1%	21%	12%	–4%		
	65+ years	13%	19%	–1%	14%	16%	–2%	28%	–12%
Language NA: N=1,005 BD: N=221 Voters: N=7,053	English	49%	86%	–8%	96%	81%	–5%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	24%	11%	+3%	4%	15%	+9%	N/A	N/A
	Other	27%	9%	–8%	2%	7%	–1%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=1,018 BD: N=215 Voters: N=6,956	United States	50%	77%	N/A	85%	64%	–12%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	5%	3%	N/A	1%	4%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Other	44%	19%	N/A	14%	32%	+11%	N/A	N/A

District 5 Demographics

Category	Subcategory	Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates	PB Voters N=60	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender Voters: N=57	Female	56%	–	–	–	70%	–	59%	+11%
	Male	44%	–	–	–	30%	–	41%	–11%
	Other	N/A	–	–	–	0%	–	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity Voters: N=52	Asian	10%	–	–	–	2%	–	3%	–1%
	Black	4%	–	–	–	10%	–	6%	+4%
	Latino/a	8%	–	–	–	19%	–	5%	+14%
	White	75%	–	–	–	64%	–	84%	–20%
	Other	2%	–	–	–	8%	–	0%	+8%
Highest Level of Education Voters: N=55	Some H.S. or less	5%	–	–	–	7%	–	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	8%	–	–	–	15%	–	N/A	N/A
	Some College	9%	–	–	–	11%	–	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	3%	–	–	–	4%	–	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	38%	–	–	–	26%	–	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	38%	–	–	–	38%	–	N/A	N/A
Household Income Voters: N=44	Less than $10,000	5%	–	–	–	18%	–	0%	+18%
	$10,000–$14,999	3%	–	–	–	9%	–	0%	+9%
	$15,000–$24,999	6%	–	–	–	14%	–	0%	+14%
	$25,000–$34,999	5%	–	–	–	7%	–	4%	+3%
	$35,000–$49,999	7%	–	–	–	9%	–	1%	+8%
	$50,000–$74,999	15%	–	–	–	2%	–	14%	–12%
	$75,000–$99,999	11%	–	–	–	11%	–	54%	–43%
	$100,000–$149,000	16%	–	–	–	7%	–	26%	–19%
	$150,000 or more	32%	–	–	–	23%	–	1%	+22%
Age Voters: N=56	15 to 17 years	2%	–	–	–	0%	–	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	1%	–	–	–	0%	–	2%	+0%
	20 to 24 years	7%	–	–	–	2%	–		
	25 to 34 years	28%	–	–	–	5%	–	12%	–7%
	35 to 44 years	18%	–	–	–	5%	–		
	45 to 54 years	13%	–	–	–	16%	–	50%	–11%
	55 to 64 years	13%	–	–	–	18%	–		
	65+ years	19%	–	–	–	54%	–	36%	+18%
Language Voters: N=58	English	72%	–	–	–	91%	–	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	9%	–	–	–	7%	–	N/A	N/A
	Other	19%	–	–	–	5%	–	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth Voters: N=56	United States	72%	–	–	–	71%	–	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	2%	–	–	–	11%	–	N/A	N/A
	Other	26%	–	–	–	18%	–	N/A	N/A

District 8 Demographics

		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=142	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=51	PB Voters N=685	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=139 BD: N=51 Voters: N=662	Female	55%	60%	–11%	73%	69%	+1%	63%	+6%
	Male	45%	38%	+9%	26%	30%	–2%	37%	–7%
	Other	N/A	1%	+0%	2%	1%	+1%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=137 BD: N=51 Voters: N=548	Asian	4%	0%	–4%	0%	2%	–1%	1%	+1%
	Black	26%	38%	–12%	43%	25%	–6%	38%	–13%
	Latino/a	63%	50%	+1%	47%	64%	+10%	48%	+16%
	White	7%	15%	+3%	12%	9%	–3%	12%	–3%
	Other	2%	7%	–5%	8%	4%	–1%	0%	+4%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=86 BD: N=37 Voters: N=534	Some H.S. or less	38%	14%	+6%	3%	5%	+17%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	27%	11%	–19%	11%	25%	–2%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	14%	17%	–3%	19%	12%	–8%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	6%	9%	+3%	5%	6%	+2%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	11%	20%	–1%	30%	12%	–9%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	6%	29%	+13%	32%	10%	–2%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=114 BD: N=46 Voters: N=518	Less than $10,000	22%	27%	–1%	20%	29%	+8%	1%	+28%
	$10,000–$14,999	13%	12%	–6%	2%	17%	–3%	8%	+9%
	$15,000–$24,999	16%	7%	–4%	17%	15%	+2%	41%	–26%
	$25,000–$34,999	12%	13%	+3%	7%	11%	–3%	36%	–25%
	$35,000–$49,999	12%	17%	+6%	17%	12%	+0%	14%	–2%
	$50,000–$74,999	12%	15%	+6%	26%	8%	–1%	1%	+7%
	$75,000–$99,999	6%	6%	+0%	7%	4%	+1%	0%	+4%
	$100,000–$149,000	5%	2%	–3%	0%	2%	–4%	0%	+2%
	$150,000 or more	3%	1%	–2%	4%	2%	–1%	0%	+2%
Age NA: N=136 BD: N=49 Voters: N=655	15 to 17 years	6%	14%	+9%	16%	6%	+3%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	4%	2%	–3%	2%	3%	–1%	4%	+4%
	20 to 24 years	11%	8%	–2%	6%	5%	+0%		
	25 to 34 years	21%	14%	+5%	20%	15%	–2%	11%	+4%
	35 to 44 years	17%	10%	–1%	16%	18%	–3%		
	45 to 54 years	16%	14%	+0%	18%	14%	–2%	56%	–1%
	55 to 64 years	12%	13%	+0%	12%	12%	–3%		
	65+ years	13%	17%	–8%	6%	27%	+8%	28%	–1%
Language NA: N=133 BD: N=51 Voters: N=637	English	36%	87%	+0%	96%	66%	+4%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	56%	20%	+1%	6%	41%	+11%	N/A	N/A
	Other	8%	1%	–4%	2%	2%	–7%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=135 BD: N=49 Voters: N=623	United States	49%	81%	N/A	90%	52%	–10%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	14%	9%	N/A	6%	22%	+7%	N/A	N/A
	Other	37%	10%	N/A	4%	26%	+2%	N/A	N/A

District 23 Demographics

	Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=236	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=42	PB Voters N=1,429	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=223 BD: N=42 Voters: N=1,396								
Female	53%	56%	+6%	67%	62%	–2%	54%	+8%
Male	47%	44%	–7%	33%	38%	+2%	46%	–8%
Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=221 BD: N=42 Voters: N=1,209								
Asian	35%	20%	+4%	7%	21%	–1%	12%	+9%
Black	11%	11%	+0%	7%	9%	+1%	14%	–5%
Latino/a	13%	13%	+5%	10%	10%	+4%	10%	+0%
White	35%	53%	–8%	74%	55%	–6%	58%	–3%
Other	6%	7%	–2%	4%	7%	+3%	1%	+6%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=130 BD: N=39 Voters: N=1,178								
Some H.S. or less	12%	1%	–1%	0%	5%	+4%	N/A	N/A
H.S. Diploma/GED	25%	13%	+1%	5%	15%	+2%	N/A	N/A
Some College	16%	27%	+11%	15%	18%	+2%	N/A	N/A
Associate's Degree	7%	1%	+1%	3%	9%	+8%	N/A	N/A
Bachelor's Degree	25%	22%	–6%	26%	23%	–9%	N/A	N/A
Graduate Degree	15%	37%	–5%	51%	31%	–3%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=173 BD: N=38 Voters: N=1,045								
Less than $10,000	4%	5%	+0%	0%	4%	+1%	0%	+4%
$10,000–$14,999	3%	6%	+2%	0%	4%	+1%	0%	+4%
$15,000–$24,999	8%	6%	–2%	5%	7%	+1%	0%	+7%
$25,000–$34,999	8%	11%	+7%	5%	9%	+3%	0%	+9%
$35,000–$49,999	11%	16%	+6%	18%	11%	–2%	4%	7%
$50,000–$74,999	17%	16%	–4%	11%	19%	+0%	66%	–47%
$75,000–$99,999	15%	12%	–2%	16%	15%	–1%	25%	–10%
$100,000–$149,000	20%	17%	–5%	24%	18%	–1%	5%	+13%
$150,000 or more	14%	10%	–4%	21%	12%	–3%	0%	+12%
Age NA: N=219 BD: N=40 Voters: N=1,360								
15 to 17 years	5%	32%	+27%	0%	7%	+5%	N/A	N/A
18 to 19 years	2%	6%	+6%	0%	2%	–1%	3%	+2%
20 to 24 years	7%	2%	+2%	5%	3%	+1%		
25 to 34 years	16%	4%	+1%	8%	8%	+3%	6%	+2%
35 to 44 years	16%	4%	–6%	23%	14%	+1%		
45 to 54 years	20%	7%	–14%	8%	14%	–4%	52%	–6%
55 to 64 years	16%	17%	–9%	25%	18%	–4%		
65+ years	19%	28%	–6%	30%	35%	–1%	38%	–3%
Language NA: N=208 BD: N=42 Voters: N=1,354								
English	46%	93%	–4%	100%	92%	+3%	N/A	N/A
Spanish	12%	4%	+2%	0%	4%	+3%	N/A	N/A
Other	42%	10%	–7%	0%	6%	–5%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=216 BD: N=41 Voters: N=1,358								
United States	44%	78%	N/A	88%	69%	–2%	N/A	N/A
Puerto Rico	2%	1%	N/A	0%	1%	+1%	N/A	N/A
Other	54%	22%	N/A	12%	30%	+1%	N/A	N/A

District 31 Demographics

		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=35	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=24	PB Voters N=816	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=34 BD: N=24 Voters: N=795	Female	56%	62%	—	71%	66%	—	62%	+4%
	Male	44%	38%	—	29%	33%	—	38%	–5%
	Other	N/A	0%	—	0%	1%	—	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=35 BD: N=23 Voters: N=690	Asian	2%	0%	—	0%	1%	—	0%	+1%
	Black	51%	77%	—	70%	69%	—	81%	–12%
	Latino/a	24%	14%	—	4%	18%	—	5%	+13%
	White	19%	23%	—	17%	9%	—	13%	–4%
	Other	3%	6%	—	9%	9%	—	0%	+9%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=26 BD: N=20 Voters: N=503	Some H.S. or less	26%	0%	—	0%	11%	—	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	30%	8%	—	5%	20%	—	N/A	N/A
	Some College	18%	15%	—	25%	27%	—	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	6%	0%	—	10%	14%	—	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	13%	50%	—	20%	15%	—	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	8%	27%	—	40%	13%	—	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=29 BD: N=21 Voters: N=552	Less than $10,000	19%	7%	—	10%	17%	—	0%	+17%
	$10,000–$14,999	8%	10%	—	5%	12%	—	1%	+11%
	$15,000–$24,999	11%	7%	—	0%	11%	—	6%	+5%
	$25,000–$34,999	10%	7%	—	5%	15%	—	5%	+10%
	$35,000–$49,999	11%	10%	—	19%	18%	—	20%	–2%
	$50,000–$74,999	16%	21%	—	38%	15%	—	29%	–14%
	$75,000–$99,999	10%	10%	—	5%	7%	—	36%	–29%
	$100,000–$149,000	9%	14%	—	10%	4%	—	3%	+1%
	$150,000 or more	7%	14%	—	10%	2%	—	0%	+2%
Age NA: N=34 BD: N=24 Voters: N=781	15 to 17 years	6%	3%	—	0%	20%	—	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	4%	6%	—	8%	7%	—	4%	+9%
	20 to 24 years	11%	12%	—	4%	6%	—		
	25 to 34 years	19%	18%	—	17%	13%	—	8%	+5%
	35 to 44 years	16%	15%	—	8%	16%	—		
	45 to 54 years	16%	12%	—	21%	20%	—	59%	–13%
	55 to 64 years	12%	15%	—	25%	10%	—		
	65+ years	16%	18%	—	17%	9%	—	28%	–19%
Language NA: N=34 BD: N=24 Voters: N=783	English	66%	100%	—	100%	92%	—	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	21%	0%	—	0%	9%	—	N/A	N/A
	Other	12%	0%	—	8%	3%	—	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=35 BD: N=23 Voters: N=753	United States	56%	97%	—	78%	72%	—	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	3%	0%	—	0%	2%	—	N/A	N/A
	Other	40%	3%	—	22%	27%	—	N/A	N/A

District 32 Demographics		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=45	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=14	PB Voters N=10	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=43 BD: N=14 Voters: N=79	Female	52%	70%	–1%	29%	68%	+6%	54%	+14%
	Male	48%	30%	+1%	71%	32%	–6%	46%	–14%
	Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=38 BD: N=13 Voters: N=68	Asian	12%	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+1%	4%	–4%
	Black	7%	13%	+3%	39%	3%	–10%	6%	–3%
	Latino/a	30%	16%	+3%	8%	4%	–7%	20%	–16%
	White	45%	71%	–3%	39%	94%	+25%	65%	+29%
	Other	5%	8%	+5%	16%	3%	–4%	1%	+2%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=38 BD: N=11 Voters: N=72	Some H.S. or less	20%	3%	–3%	0%	1%	–5%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	32%	16%	–2%	9%	17%	–19%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	17%	18%	+0%	9%	17%	–5%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	8%	16%	+16%	9%	11%	+10%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	15%	21%	–14%	55%	31%	+3%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	9%	26%	+2%	18%	24%	+16%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=36 BD: N=11 Voters: N=57	Less than $10,000	5%	3%	+3%	0%	0%	–5%	0%	+0%
	$10,000–$14,999	4%	0%	–12%	0%	0%	–3%	0%	+0%
	$15,000–$24,999	9%	8%	+4%	0%	2%	–5%	0%	+2%
	$25,000–$34,999	8%	11%	+7%	0%	5%	–26%	0%	+5%
	$35,000–$49,999	13%	19%	+11%	27%	19%	–2%	14%	+5%
	$50,000–$74,999	18%	14%	–9%	36%	16%	+6%	51%	–35%
	$75,000–$99,999	15%	22%	–9%	9%	19%	+12%	30%	–11%
	$100,000–$149,000	15%	17%	+9%	0%	28%	+13%	5%	+23%
	$150,000 or more	11%	6%	–6%	27%	11%	+9%	0%	+11%
Age NA: N=41 BD: N=14 Voters: N=75	15 to 17 years	5%	5%	+0%	21%	0%	–2%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	3%	0%	–5%	0%	0%	+0%	3%	–3%
	20 to 24 years	8%	2%	+2%	0%	0%	–2%		
	25 to 34 years	16%	10%	+10%	7%	5%	+1%	7%	–2%
	35 to 44 years	17%	5%	–21%	14%	13%	–2%		
	45 to 54 years	19%	20%	–17%	21%	21%	–17%	57%	+0%
	55 to 64 years	15%	32%	+11%	36%	23%	–4%		
	65+ years	16%	27%	+22%	0%	37%	+24%	32%	+5%
Language NA: N=40 BD: N=13 Voters: N=76	English	55%	100%	+0%	92%	97%	+9%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	27%	0%	–3%	0%	3%	–1%	N/A	N/A
	Other	18%	0%	+0%	8%	0%	–8%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=44 BD: N=12 Voters: N=77	United States	52%	86%	N/A	100%	95%	+10%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	4%	0%	N/A	0%	0%	–4%	N/A	N/A
	Other	44%	14%	N/A	0%	5%	–7%	N/A	N/A

District 33 Demographics

		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=153	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=23	PB Voters N=1,399	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=144 BD: N=23 Voters: N=1,377	Female	51%	69%	–2%	65%	67%	+5%	51%	+16%
	Male	49%	29%	+0%	35%	33%	–5%	49%	–16%
	Other	N/A	2%	+2%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=145 BD: N=23 Voters: N=1,236	Asian	6%	1%	–3%	0%	5%	–1%	3%	+2%
	Black	6%	27%	–10%	13%	17%	+5%	10%	+7%
	Latino/a	15%	31%	+11%	9%	13%	+1%	11%	+2%
	White	71%	43%	+2%	74%	64%	–5%	75%	–11%
	Other	2%	4%	+2%	4%	4%	+1%	0%	+4%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=93 BD: N=20 Voters: N=1,286	Some H.S. or less	14%	8%	+2%	5%	7%	+3%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	19%	7%	–6%	10%	12%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	12%	9%	–5%	20%	10%	+0%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	5%	7%	+3%	5%	6%	+5%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	27%	26%	+2%	25%	30%	–9%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	23%	44%	+5%	35%	34%	–2%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=129 BD: N=23 Voters: N=1,169	Less than $10,000	10%	19%	+3%	9%	7%	+1%	13%	–6%
	$10,000–$14,999	7%	11%	+1%	17%	5%	+0%	1%	+4%
	$15,000–$24,999	10%	10%	+0%	13%	7%	+3%	11%	–4%
	$25,000–$34,999	8%	11%	–5%	13%	7%	+1%	7%	+0%
	$35,000–$49,999	10%	12%	+3%	9%	10%	+2%	7%	+3%
	$50,000–$74,999	14%	13%	+3%	17%	13%	+1%	22%	–9%
	$75,000–$99,999	11%	14%	+3%	9%	12%	+1%	24%	–12%
	$100,000–$149,000	13%	5%	–9%	0%	15%	–2%	11%	+4%
	$150,000 or more	18%	5%	+0%	13%	24%	–8%	5%	19%
Age NA: N=141 BD: N=23 Voters: N=1,371	15 to 17 years	4%	1%	–19%	0%	1%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	3%	14%	+11%	0%	1%	+0%	6%	–3%
	20 to 24 years	10%	18%	+16%	13%	2%	+1%		
	25 to 34 years	31%	15%	–2%	39%	19%	–1%	24%	–5%
	35 to 44 years	19%	14%	–1%	9%	33%	+0%		
	45 to 54 years	13%	4%	–9%	9%	20%	+1%	52%	+12%
	55 to 64 years	10%	12%	–3%	13%	11%	–2%		
	65+ years	10%	21%	+5%	17%	14%	+0%	18%	–4%
Language NA: N=137 BD: N=23 Voters: N=1,352	English	53%	90%	–4%	100%	92%	+5%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	16%	12%	+2%	0%	5%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Other	31%	7%	+0%	0%	6%	–3%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=142 BD: N=23 Voters: N=1,329	United States	68%	83%	N/A	96%	78%	+3%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	5%	6%	N/A	0%	3%	+0%	N/A	N/A
	Other	27%	11%	N/A	4%	19%	–3%	N/A	N/A

District 38 Demographics

		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=267	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=28	PB Voters N=681	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=253 BD: N=28 Voters: N=650	Female	50%	62%	—	71%	70%	—	55%	+15%
	Male	50%	38%	—	29%	30%	—	45%	–15%
	Other	N/A	0%	—	0%	0%	—	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=247 BD: N=27 Voters: N=607	Asian	35%	15%	—	7%	23%	—	10%	+13%
	Black	4%	28%	—	33%	6%	—	9%	-3%
	Latino/a	39%	40%	—	26%	45%	—	34%	+11%
	White	20%	20%	—	33%	25%	—	43%	–18%
	Other	1%	5%	—	0%	3%	—	1%	+2%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=149 BD: N=27 Voters: N=537	Some H.S. or less	41%	16%	—	4%	25%	—	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	22%	17%	—	22%	22%	—	N/A	N/A
	Some College	10%	10%	—	4%	6%	—	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	4%	8%	—	4%	6%	—	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	15%	22%	—	30%	18%	—	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	8%	27%	—	37%	17%	—	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=182 BD: N=25 Voters: N=529	Less than $10,000	11%	21%	—	4%	17%	—	0%	+17%
	$10,000–$14,999	8%	10%	—	4%	16%	—	4%	+12%
	$15,000–$24,999	14%	8%	—	8%	15%	—	6%	+9%
	$25,000–$34,999	12%	12%	—	12%	8%	—	22%	–14%
	$35,000–$49,999	14%	10%	—	32%	9%	—	38%	–29%
	$50,000–$74,999	17%	13%	—	16%	12%	—	26%	–14%
	$75,000–$99,999	9%	9%	—	12%	7%	—	3%	+4%
	$100,000–$149,000	10%	7%	—	4%	9%	—	2%	+7%
	$150,000 or more	6%	9%	—	8%	7%	—	0%	+7%
Age NA: N=245 BD: N=28 Voters: N=649	15 to 17 years	4%	11%	—	0%	2%	—	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	3%	10%	—	0%	2%	—	3%	+6%
	20 to 24 years	10%	7%	—	4%	7%	—		
	25 to 34 years	25%	11%	—	36%	26%	—	16%	+10%
	35 to 44 years	19%	21%	—	21%	33%	—		
	45 to 54 years	16%	14%	—	18%	16%	—	57%	+0%
	55 to 64 years	12%	14%	—	14%	8%	—		
	65+ years	11%	5%	—	7%	6%	—	23%	–17%
Language NA: N=257 BD: N=28 Voters: N=632	English	26%	70%	—	89%	51%	—	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	33%	19%	—	14%	34%	—	N/A	N/A
	Other	41%	18%	—	0%	18%	—	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=238 BD: N=27 Voters: N=630	United States	35%	68%	—	82%	44%	—	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	6%	3%	—	0%	2%	—	N/A	N/A
	Other	59%	29%	—	19%	55%	—	N/A	N/A

District 39 Demographics

		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=145	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=17	PB Voters N=1,949	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=139 BD: N=17 Voters: N=1,929	Female	52%	53%	–6%	53%	60%	+0%	55%	+5%
	Male	48%	47%	+6%	47%	40%	+5%	45%	–5%
	Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=140 BD: N=17 Voters: N=1,846	Asian	11%	10%	+4%	12%	9%	+3%	4%	+5%
	Black	6%	6%	–1%	0%	3%	+1%	9%	–4%
	Latino/a	16%	19%	+14%	0%	5%	+1%	9%	–4%
	White	65%	65%	–17%	88%	84%	–2%	76%	+8%
	Other	2%	8%	+1%	0%	3%	+0%	1%	+2%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=126 BD: N=16 Voters: N=1,878	Some H.S. or less	12%	10%	+9%	0%	0%	–1%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	16%	10%	+9%	0%	2%	–1%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	10%	5%	+0%	13%	5%	–1%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	4%	5%	+3%	6%	3%	+2%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	30%	26%	+1%	31%	32%	–6%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	27%	44%	–22%	50%	58%	+5%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=125 BD: N=17 Voters: N=1,759	Less than $10,000	5%	5%	+3%	0%	1%	–1%	0%	+1%
	$10,000-$14,999	5%	5%	+4%	12%	1%	+0%	0%	+1%
	$15,000-$24,999	8%	6%	+3%	0%	2%	+0%	2%	+0%
	$25,000-$34,999	7%	10%	+4%	0%	3%	+0%	4%	–1%
	$35,000-$49,999	9%	13%	+2%	0%	4%	–2%	15%	–11%
	$50,000-$74,999	15%	20%	+3%	35%	9%	–1%	14%	–5%
	$75,000-$99,999	12%	15%	–3%	12%	13%	–4%	34%	–21%
	$100,000-$149,000	22%	17%	–5%	29%	45%	+9%	0%	+45%
	$150,000 or more	18%	5%	+0%	13%	24%	–8%	5%	19%
Age NA: N=142 BD: N=17 Voters: N=1,923	15 to 17 years	4%	4%	–3%	6%	1%	+0%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	2%	1%	–3%	0%	0%	+1%	3%	–2%
	20 to 24 years	8%	1%	–3%	6%	1%	+0%		
	25 to 34 years	27%	16%	–2%	29%	13%	–1%	18%	–5%
	35 to 44 years	20%	25%	+6%	18%	37%	+2%		
	45 to 54 years	15%	15%	–7%	12%	26%	+2%	62%	+15%
	55 to 64 years	13%	13%	–1%	18%	14%	+0%		
	65+ years	11%	22%	+10%	18%	9%	–2%	17%	–8%
Language NA: N=133 BD: N=17 Voters: N=1,916	English	60%	90%	–9%	100%	95%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	14%	10%	8%	0%	2%	1%	N/A	N/A
	Other	26%	6%	–3%	0%	4%	–1%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=144 BD: N=16 Voters: N=1,902	United States	65%	78%	N/A	88%	82%	–2%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	4%	4%	N/A	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
	Other	32%	18%	N/A	13%	17%	+2%	N/A	N/A

District 44 Demographics		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=28	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=11	PB Voters N=76	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=27 BD: N=11 Voters: N=68	Female	51%	48%	–22%	27%	71%	+22%	49%	+22%
	Male	49%	52%	+22%	73%	29%	–22%	51%	–22%
	Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=23 BD: N=11 Voters: N=70	Asian	14%	13%	+5%	36%	3%	+3%	4%	–1%
	Black	1%	0%	–3%	0%	0%	+0%	2%	–2%
	Latino/a	10%	0%	–3%	36%	10%	+7%	5%	+5%
	White	74%	78%	–6%	27%	86%	–7%	85%	+1%
	Other	1%	9%	–2%	9%	4%	–3%	1%	+3%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=23 BD: N=11 Voters: N=42	Some H.S. or less	23%	4%	–1%	9%	19%	+6%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	31%	13%	+8%	9%	31%	–4%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	13%	17%	+1%	9%	19%	+10%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	6%	17%	+1%	0%	10%	+10%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	17%	13%	–24%	27%	12%	–10%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	11%	35%	+14%	55%	10%	–12%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=16 BD: N=11 Voters: N=41	Less than $10,000	10%	13%	+3%	0%	20%	+12%	0%	+20%
	$10,000–$14,999	8%	6%	+6%	0%	20%	+16%	0%	+20%
	$15,000–$24,999	14%	0%	–10%	9%	12%	–12%	5%	+7%
	$25,000–$34,999	12%	13%	+0%	9%	22%	+22%	28%	–6%
	$35,000–$49,999	13%	13%	–6%	0%	5%	–3%	50%	–45%
	$50,000–$74,999	16%	13%	+0%	46%	10%	–6%	16%	–6%
	$75,000–$99,999	9%	6%	–1%	0%	2%	–6%	1%	+1%
	$100,000–$149,000	11%	19%	+2%	36%	2%	–22%	0%	+2%
	$150,000 or more	8%	19%	+6%	0%	7%	–1%	0%	+7%
Age NA: N=25 BD: N=11 Voters: N=73	15 to 17 years	6%	4%	+4%	0%	14%	+7%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	4%	0%	–4%	0%	14%	+14%	7%	+18%
	20 to 24 years	10%	4%	–5%	0%	11%	+0%		
	25 to 34 years	19%	4%	+0%	18%	7%	–22%	17%	–10%
	35 to 44 years	14%	4%	–26%	27%	1%	–10%		
	45 to 54 years	15%	20%	+3%	18%	7%	–4%	49%	–31%
	55 to 64 years	15%	20%	+7%	36%	10%	–4%		
	65+ years	17%	44%	+22%	0%	37%	+19%	27%	+10%
Language NA: N=24 BD: N=7 Voters: N=73	English	33%	96%	–2%	86%	86%	+12%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	9%	0%	+0%	14%	6%	+6%	N/A	N/A
	Other	58%	8%	–9%	0%	11%	–15%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=27 BD: N=9 Voters: N=70	United States	46%	67%	N/A	44%	73%	–6%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	2%	0%	N/A	0%	3%	+3%	N/A	N/A
	Other	52%	33%	N/A	56%	24%	+3%	N/A	N/A

District 45 Demographics

		Census Data Age 18+	Neighborhood Assemblies N=44	Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3	Budget Delegates N=16	PB Voters N=457	Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3	Voters in 2013 Local Elections	Difference between PB & 2013 Voters
Gender NA: N=37 BD: N=16 Voters: N=441	Female	56%	67%	+3%	81%	69%	+6%	61%	+8%
	Male	44%	32%	–4%	19%	31%	–6%	39%	–8%
	Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Race/Ethnicity NA: N=37 BD: N=16 Voters: N=377	Asian	4%	5%	+1%	19%	2%	+1%	1%	+1%
	Black	66%	65%	–5%	56%	79%	–10%	71%	+8%
	Latino/a	8%	3%	–10%	6%	4%	+0%	3%	+1%
	White	19%	30%	+12%	25%	14%	+10%	24%	–10%
	Other	2%	3%	–7%	0%	4%	–2%	0%	+4%
Highest Level of Education NA: N=30 BD: N=12 Voters: N=351	Some H.S. or less	13%	3%	–9%	0%	9%	–2%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	33%	3%	–11%	8%	18%	+4%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	19%	17%	–6%	8%	22%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	9%	3%	–4%	8%	11%	+7%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	17%	33%	+5%	25%	18%	–15%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	9%	40%	+24%	50%	23%	+5%	N/A	N/A
Household Income NA: N=28 BD: N=12 Voters: N=319	Less than $10,000	9%	14%	+3%	0%	12%	+3%	0%	+12%
	$10,000-$14,999	5%	0%	–15%	0%	9%	+2%	2%	+7%
	$15,000-$24,999	11%	11%	+4%	0%	11%	–1%	0%	+11%
	$25,000-$34,999	10%	4%	+0%	0%	11%	–1%	7%	+4%
	$35,000-$49,999	14%	14%	–1%	17%	14%	–8%	32%	–18%
	$50,000-$74,999	18%	7%	–19%	33%	18%	–3%	46%	–28%
	$75,000-$99,999	12%	7%	–4%	17%	12%	+5%	10%	+2%
	$100,000-$149,000	13%	21%	+15%	33%	10%	+2%	2%	+8%
	$150,000 or more	9%	21%	+17%	0%	2%	–1%	1%	+1%
Age NA: N=37 BD: N=15 Voters: N=436	15 to 17 years	5%	14%	+12%	13%	7%	+6%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	4%	0%	–9%	0%	3%	–2%	4%	+4%
	20 to 24 years	9%	5%	–2%	7%	5%	+0%		
	25 to 34 years	17%	11%	–4%	7%	13%	–8%	9%	+4%
	35 to 44 years	16%	3%	–10%	0%	10%	–8%	57%	–16%
	45 to 54 years	18%	19%	–5%	13%	16%	–1%		
	55 to 64 years	15%	30%	+19%	33%	15%	+0%		
	65+ years	15%	19%	+0%	20%	32%	+15%	30%	+2%
Language NA: N=39 BD: N=16 Voters: N=430	English	70%	100%	+1%	94%	96%	+5%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	7%	0%	–2%	0%	4%	+2%	N/A	N/A
	Other	23%	3%	–4%	6%	4%	–3%	N/A	N/A
Country of Birth NA: N=37 BD: N=15 Voters: N=423	United States	41%	70%	N/A	67%	47%	–1%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	2%	0%	N/A	0%	1%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Other	57%	30%	N/A	33%	52%	+0%	N/A	N/A

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2013–14 PBNYC Steering Committee

City Council Members

Council Member Ben Kallos, District 5
Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, District 8
Council Member Mark Weprin, District 23
Council Member Donovan Richards, District 31
Council Member Eric Ulrich, District 32
Council Member Stephen Levin, District 33
Council Member Carlos Menchaca, District 38
Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez,
  District 38 (former)
Council Member Brad Lander, District 39
Council Member David G. Greenfield, District 44
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams, District 45

District Representatives

David Giordano, Children's Aid Society, District 8
Frank Toner, District 23
Patricia Kehoe, District 23
John Cori, District 32
Reverend Eleni Marudis, District 32
Benjamin Solotaire, District 33
Leah Hebert, District 38
Mamnunul Haq, District 39
Rachel Fine, District 39
Matt Green, District 39
Joan Bakiriddin, District 45
Hazel Martinez, District 45

Resource Persons and Organizations

Community Voices Heard
The Participatory Budgeting Project
Adhikaar
Arts & Democracy Project
BRIC
Brooklyn Food Coalition
Center for Urban Pedagogy
Chhaya Community Development Corporation
Common Cause New York
Community Development Project at the
  Urban Justice Center
Community Service Society
Desis Rising Up and Moving
Fifth Avenue Committee
Human Impacts Institute
The Laundromat Project
Lower East Side Ecology Center
New Immigrant Community Empowerment
New York Civic
New York Immigration Coalition
The New York World
New Yorkers for Parks
NYC Community Garden Coalition
Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA
Pratt Institute
Project for Public Spaces
Public Agenda
Public Policy Lab
Right to the City Alliance
Transportation Alternatives
596 Acres
Celina Su, Brooklyn College
Ron Hayduk, Queens College