

Location: City of Vallejo

Issue: Citywide Participatory Budgeting

Methodology: Participatory Budgeting Process/ Facilitated Meetings

Davenport Institute: 2012 Public Engagement Grant Recipient

In 2012, the City of Vallejo undertook the first citywide Participatory Budgeting (PB) Process in the United States, giving residents a chance to decide how to spend over \$3 million in revenue from a local sales tax measure.

Participatory Budgeting was first developed in Brazil and is now practiced around the world. As the Vallejo PB website notes, "Though each PB initiative looks different, the process generally involves several months of public meetings, discussions, and voting, so that the public has time to make wise decisions."

In Vallejo, residents and stakeholders were invited to develop projects in a series of community meetings during the second half of 2012. In May 2013, nearly 4,000 community members turned out for a special election to prioritize projects for city council approval.

[Here](#), you can see a video on PB Vallejo from [CA Forward](#).

Visit the PB Vallejo site [here](#).

Final research reports on the PB Vallejo process coming soon.