



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING PILOT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE UPDATE • AUGUST 24, 2021

Initial Implementation Schedule (as of June 15)

Action	Responsible	Timeline
Form steering committee	City Commission	June 1-11
Plan and conduct initial engagement	Steering Committee + Public	June 12-July 18
Refine final concepts for vote	Steering Committee + Staff	July 19-August 8
Public voting & selection	Steering Committee + Public	August 9-29
Commission adoption	City Commission	September
Project implementation	Staff + Steering Committee	September 2021-June 2022*

* - infrastructure investments may require a two-year schedule, through June 2023

Revised Implementation Schedule (as of August 24)

Action	Responsible	Timeline
Form steering committee	City Commission	June - July
Steering committee orientation	Steering Committee + Staff	July 29 - August 12
Steering committee rule adoption	Steering Committee + Staff	August 13 - August 27
Plan and conduct initial engagement	Steering Committee + Public	September - October
Refine final concepts for vote	Steering Committee + Staff	November - TBD
Public voting & selection	Steering Committee + Public	TBD
Commission adoption	City Commission	TBD
Project implementation	Staff + Steering Committee	TBD

* - infrastructure investments may require a two-year schedule, through June 2023

Steering Committee Members

1st Ward

- Mallory Patterson, Adnoris (Bo) Torres, Michael Scholten

2nd Ward*

- Doug Booth, Lisa Knight

3rd Ward

- Kristian Grant, LaKiya Thompson-Jenkins, Kenneth Hoskins

Support Staff

- Doug Matthews, Lou Canfield, Gricelda Estrada, Asante Cain, Laura Olson, Sharra Pencil

* - *One appointee has stepped down due to other obligations.*



Current Status

- Laying the Foundation

- Session One:
Initial meeting
- Session Two:
Orientation, training by Participatory Budgeting Project
- Session Three:
Refining values, goals, decision-making process, rules

- Alignment with PB Best Practice

- Time and space required to build ownership & capacity
- Peer cities are on 9-12 month timelines, our goal remains a shorter process



Current Status

- **Modified guidance on expenditures to align with ARPA**
 - Infrastructure investments related to water, wastewater and broadband
 - Evidence-based violence reduction strategies
 - Remediation of lead paint or other lead hazards in homes
 - Economic and health impacts of COVID-19 (includes assistance to households, small business and nonprofits)
 - Incentive pay to front-line workers
 - Investments in housing and re-housing
 - Addressing educational disparities
 - Investing in healthy childhood environments



PB Steering Committee Goals

- Empower the people (“ownership” and “influence”)
- Broaden and diversify engagement and participation
- Meaningful, visible, lasting improvement
- Sustainable public good
- Easy and seamless civic engagement
- Amplify marginalized voices
- Repeatable, scalable process
- Build resident leadership capacity
- Affordable housing and quality education



PB Steering Committee Values

- Inclusive
- Transparent
- Equitable
- Resident-driven
- Democratic
- Leadership
- Civic
- Accessible
- Sustainable
- Accountable
- Results-oriented
- Proactive
- Multi-media
- Empowered
- Clarity
- Honesty
- Collaboration
- Creativity
- Innovation
- Integrity
- Trust



PB Draft Vision

“Through participatory budgeting, we will empower the people of Grand Rapids to make timely, informed decisions that lead to visible and lasting improvements within their neighborhoods.

Our work will be guided by the value of equity, with an intentional and transparent process designed to include marginalized voices, people with lived experience, and diverse groups. This process will be structured to remove barriers and build community capacity.”



Next steps

- **Decision-making process and rules adoption**
 - Group has taken ownership of drafting rulebook
- **Plan and execute outreach & education**
 - Includes ongoing support for communication (web, social, print materials, etc.)
- **Plan engagement process**
 - May include expansion/inclusion of additional residents
 - Determine resources required (contracts, technology, facilitator training, etc.)
- **Execute initial engagement/ideation phase**







THANK YOU!