



2022/23 ARPA Nashville Citywide Participatory Budgeting



Objective:

Nashville is focused on continuing to develop ways to evaluate whether the communities hardest hit by COVID-19 are being reached by federal stimulus funds. The successful and equitable allocation of stimulus funds requires broad efforts designed to ensure that allocated funds serve the communities and constituencies, and that these efforts should be reflected in the reports and supported by a variety of inputs. To that end, Nashville believes that using community-led decision making to distribute \$10,000,000 ARPA funds will help ensure investments match real community needs

2023 ARPA Nashville Participatory Budgeting

The citywide PB will be funded by ARPA which uses a unique framework and has usage restrictions. Once started a Steering Committee will work on adapting the existing Participatory Budgeting guidelines and the idea collection will commence after Metro Council approval.

- Items funded by it may include grants and onetime services to offset the impact of Covid. In particular, funds may be used for payroll and covered benefits expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees, including first responders, to the extent that the employee's time that is dedicated to responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- To be placed on the Participatory Budgeting ballot, eligibility requirement will include a cap of \$250,000 per project

Resident involvement

- Steering Committee, group that creates the guidelines and oversees the process
 - Each CM to recommend 2 members, one full member and one alternate
 - Mayor's office to choose 5
- Idea submission
 - Any Nashville resident may submit an unlimited number of ideas
- Budget Delegates, group that create the final ballot
 - Ask CM to recommend 3 members, two full members and one alternate
 - Mayor's office to choose 10
- Voting
 - Any Nashville Resident, 14 years old and above will be eligible to vote

Implementation:

Social vulnerability refers to the potential negative effects on communities caused by external stresses on human health. Such stresses include natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks. Reducing social vulnerability can decrease both human suffering and economic loss.

The **CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (CDC/ATSDR SVI)** uses 15 U.S. census variables to help local officials identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters.

The population in Nashville totals 715,884 according to the latest Census, to meet ARPA requirements we will use the Social Vulnerability Index to allocate funding based on vulnerability.

Guidelines

- The 2022 Bordeaux North Nashville Participatory Budgeting guidelines will be edited to address the main changes, making it citywide and adjusting the ARPA funding eligibility issues.
- The Steering Committee will use the edited 2022 Bordeaux North Nashville Participatory Budgeting guidelines as a template to start the process, they will then:
 - Create a value or mission statement
 - Review the guidelines based on the mission statement
 - Make edits to the guidelines
 - Adopt the guidelines
- Once the guidelines are adopted the Budget Delegates may start developing the ARPA Ballot

Idea Collection:

- Nashville residents will start submitting ideas once the program is approved by the Metro Council
- The deadline for idea submission will be February 1st 2023

Proposal Development:

- Budget Delegates will review all ideas and with the support of Metro Staff, eliminate non eligible items (based on ARPA, Federal, State and Metro law)
- They will complete their work by creating a 35 item Ballot no later than April 1st, 2023
 - First all ideas will be screened for eligibility as defined by the guidelines.
 - Second all duplicate ideas will be removed
 - Then the Budget Delegates will develop proposals only based on the submitted ideas and engage in a democratic process in which they decide, as a group, the final 35 items for the ballot

Voting:

- All Davidson County Residents 14 years old and older will be eligible to vote
- Voting will happen:
 - online via hub.nashville.gov
 - paper ballot mailed to the PB Nashville POBox
 - paper ballot cast at different polling locations throughout the County
- Every resident may submit up to one completed ballot with up to five items anywhere in the city
- Ballot items will be selected based on SVI value and number votes received.

Schedule:

