

Freehold Borough





OPEN AND INNOVATIVE GOVERNMENT

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT and INVOLVEMENT

“Freehold Borough PB is an inclusionary process that targets all residents. In the Borough, many of our residents feel they don’t have a voice. PB encourages residents who feel excluded, who don’t participate to come out and let their voices be heard.”

Mayor Kevin Kane

HISTORY

- Participatory Budgeting began in Brazil in 1989.
- Freehold Borough implemented the program on an annual basis in 2017.
- Each PB cycle, participants submit 30 project ideas on average.
- To date, Freehold Borough residents have voted to fund over \$450,000 for 19 PB projects.

How PB works

- Anyone aged 14 and older can submit project ideas to be funded.
- Projects are vetted by the PB Committee and Borough professionals.
- Who can vote:
 - Borough residents aged 14 and older
 - Borough business owners
- Governing body funds the winning projects

What qualifies as a project?

- **Capital Projects**; i.e., *park improvements, playground equipment, ball fields, sidewalk repair, bike lanes, signage, lighting, garbage receptacles...*
- **Must be on public property**
- **Must have 5 year or more life span and low maintenance cost**
- **Project cost cannot exceed \$200,000**

Examples of winning PB Projects:

Lighting at the Little League Field



Night games allow more time for season and postseason games

Sidewalk repairs



Neighborhoods are safer and provides added curb appeal

Tree Replacement



Aesthetically pleasing and environmentally beneficial

Lake Topanemus Pedestrian Bridge



Safer access to the edge of the pond for fishing

Other Winning Projects

New Roof for the Fire House

Solar Speed Limit Signs

Lighting at Lake Topanemus

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliant Playground Equipment
at Veterans Park

Water Filling Stations at Veterans and Liberty St Park

Trail Extension at Lake Topanemus

Traffic Light Generators for South & Main, Park & Main, and Elks Point

Welcome to Freehold Signs

Picnic Tables and Benches at Lake Topanemus

Solar Lighting for Flag Poles in Parks

Street Lights for Downtown Freehold

ADA compliant Fishing Pier at Lake Topanemus

Portable Surveillance Cameras for Increased Security

How you can participate

- Project submission forms will be posted on the Participatory Budget Committee link on the Freehold Borough Website or scan the QR code:

[Freehold NJ - Participatory Budgeting Committee](#)



- Submit your project idea(s)
- Projects can be promoted by the submitter once determined ballot eligible

2024 Timeline

April 15 through July 31: Project idea submission

August: PB Committee and Borough professionals vet projects to determine which projects meet the PB guidelines.

September 19: Town Hall meeting to present the 2024 PB Projects selected for the ballot. Those selected are encouraged to promote their project(s) by attending the Town Hall, describing their project(s) on the PB Facebook page or their own Social Media, or attending the Latino Festival with the PB Committee to promote their project(s).

September 19 through 30: Voting takes place.

September 19th - 30th



Let your voice be heard!!!

Who can vote?

- Borough residents aged 14 and older**
- Borough business owners**



Winning Projects
will be announced
on the
Participatory Budget Facebook page
and at the
Monday, October 7th
Town Council Meeting
6:30 pm
Borough Hall
30 Mechanic Street



Questions?

