



City of Cambridge
Participatory Budgeting
Cycle 2

BALLOT
DECEMBER 2015



Voting Instructions:

- ✓ All Cambridge residents age 12 and over may vote.
- ✓ You may vote for up to six (6) projects.
- ✓ You cannot vote for the same project more than once.
- ✓ Ballots marked with more than six (6) votes are invalid and will not be counted.
- ✓ Mark boxes clearly with an “X” or a check mark, or fully shade them in.



Culture & Community Facilities



1. Interactive Technology for the Main Library

\$60,000

Main Library, 449 Broadway

This project will fund an iPad lending kiosk and 16 iPads, as well as a permanent interactive screen in the Children’s Room of the Main Library.



2. Digital Sign at City Hall in Multiple Languages

\$75,000

Cambridge City Hall Lawn

Digital sign that will scroll announcements in multiple languages and welcome people to Cambridge. It will be easily seen when residents go by and will be a prototype that if successful can be replicated in other areas of the city.



3. Little Free Libraries (Book Exchanges)

\$16,250

13 locations - 1 in each Cambridge neighborhood

Informal Book Exchanges are already popular in Cambridge on streets and at the Public Works yard. This project would install 13 Little Free Libraries to support literacy, community engagement, and fun throughout the streets of our city.



4. Cambridge Garden of Peace

\$350,000

Location to be determined through a community process

The Peace Garden will include a memorial for loved ones from Cambridge whose lives were taken due to violence. The Peace Garden will be a place of tranquility and reflection.



5. Block Party Trailer with Party Equipment

\$81,000

Residents to request as needed

A vehicle or trailer, equipped with supplies needed for bringing neighbors together at outdoor block parties.



6. Free Wifi and Soofa Benches in 3 Parks

\$92,000

Wifi and Soofa benches in Lopez, Raymond and Dana Parks; Soofa benches in Porter & Inman Squares and the Main Library

This project would install free public wifi in 3 Cambridge parks that are in areas with limited access to free wifi and 10 solar-powered benches that allow residents and visitors to charge their electronic devices for free in public areas.



Streets, Sidewalks & Transit



7. Shape Up Our Squares!

\$40,000

Central and Inman Squares

Paint green bike lanes through the intersections on Massachusetts Avenue in Central Square and Hampshire Street in Inman Square to improve safety for drivers, bikers, and pedestrians.



8. Faster, Better #1 Bus for Cambridge

\$250,000

Massachusetts Avenue

Increase on-time trips and reduce bus commuter transit times for the #1 Bus on Massachusetts Avenue by installing a Transit Signal Priority system at intersections allowing buses to extend green lights to get through traffic faster.



9. Separate Bike Lanes from Traffic

\$50,000

Citywide

Improve safety for drivers and bikers by moving bike lanes to be between street parking spots and the sidewalk, reducing car-bike interactions and potential collisions.



10. Make Massachusetts Avenue Safer for Bikers

\$70,000

Along Massachusetts Avenue

Improve safety on Massachusetts Avenue by adding shared lane markings for bicycles, along with signs saying “Bike Route,” “Bicycle May Use Full Lane,” and “Watch for Cyclists” where bike lanes are not already present.



11. Real-Time Bus Arrival Monitors in Harvard Square

\$24,000

2 locations in Harvard Square

Real-time bus arrival monitors at 2 bus stops in Harvard Square will inform travelers when the next bus will arrive, so they can adjust their plans if needed.



Environment, Health & Safety



12. 5 Water Bottle Refill Stations

\$40,000

Citywide

At a water bottle refill station you get a healthy drink for free! The Cambridge Public Health Department recommends drinking more water and less sugary drinks.



13. Wellington-Harrington Community Garden

\$100,000

Location to be determined through a community process

The Wellington-Harrington neighborhood is full of gardeners but has no community gardens. Let's support our neighbors' desire to bring a community garden to Wellington-Harrington. They've organized, we've listened - let's make it happen!



14. Veterans' Garden

\$250,000

Location to be determined through a community process

Veterans of war often return home with severe but unseen injuries. 8,000 veterans, each year, take their own lives. A garden design to heal the wounds of war for vets and their families is the purpose of this project. Help make it possible.



15. Cambridge Prepared Food Rescue Freezer Van

\$48,000

Citywide

Let's feed the hungry in our city. A freezer van is the vital piece of equipment that would allow Cambridge and its partners to potentially double prepared food rescue deliveries from roughly 3,500 healthy frozen meals to 7,000 each week.



16. The Sustainable Energy Pilot

\$90,000

War Memorial Recreation Center and 1 City parking lot

Picture a future where Cambridge residents are making sustainable energy choices. Let's start now – install energy conversion devices on gym equipment and a rapid electric vehicle charging station.



17. Nursing Pod for Mothers and Infants

\$20,000

City Hall, 3rd floor, Central Square

Provide an attractive private space where working mothers and community members can breastfeed or pump during the work day. Provision of break time and a private area for nursing or pumping is required by the Fair Labor Standards Act.



Parks, Recreation & Education



18. Inclusive Playground for All Kids

\$305,000

Location to be determined through a community process

This Universal Design playground would include equipment that is designed to be usable by everyone without special adaptations or retrofitting. This is greatly needed to create inclusive physical environments in the community.



19. Volleyball Court at Danehy Park

\$61,000

Danehy Park

Creating an outdoor volleyball court would be an exciting addition to the city, especially since there is not currently an outdoor court in all of Cambridge! The court would have sand and a sturdy net for three-season usage.



20. Invention and Production of Music

\$150,000

Frisoli, Gately, & Russell Youth Centers

Install music studios and equipment at the Frisoli, Gately, and Russell Youth Centers to inspire creativity, enable pre-teens and teens to express their skills and passions, and provide youth with another recreational outlet.



21. New Chairs for Cambridge Public Schools!

\$190,000

CRLS and 3 Upper Schools

We need new chairs in CPS schools, specifically the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (CRLS), Cambridge Street Upper School, Putnam Avenue Upper School, and Rindge Avenue Upper School.



22. Outdoor Exercise Equipment

\$260,000

Danehy Park and 3 other parks

Installing outdoor exercise equipment similar to the fitness stations along the Charles River in Boston at Danehy Park and three other Cambridge parks would provide a health benefit for the whole community.



23. Remodel the Kitchen at the Frisoli Youth Center

\$200,000

61 Willow Street

The kitchen area in the Frisoli Youth Center is in dire need of renovating. Replace the stove, dishwasher, cabinets, and countertops in the Frisoli Youth Center kitchen. This project can serve many Cambridge youth!

What is Participatory Budgeting?

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a democratic process through which community members directly decide how to spend part of a public budget. First developed in Brazil in 1989, PB is now practiced in over 1,500 cities around the world.

Cambridge's second PB process began in June 2015. In August, community members submitted 540 ideas about how to spend \$600,000 of the capital budget to improve Cambridge. From September to November, volunteer Budget Delegates researched, evaluated, and distilled those ideas into 24 proposals to meet community needs. Now, Cambridge residents are deciding which projects the City will fund. Make your voice heard!

Real Money | Real Projects | Real Power

For more information please visit pb.cambridgema.gov or contact the City's Budget Office at (617) 349-4270 or pb@cambridgema.gov.

Many thanks to the PB Cambridge Steering Committee, Budget Delegates, City of Cambridge staff, the Participatory Budgeting Project, Stanford Crowdsourced Democracy team, and all the PB volunteers and participants!

