

New York City Participatory Budgeting — Council Discretionary Funds Put to Resident Vote, With Measured Voting Effects

City Innovation Library · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

NYC council members let residents vote on capital projects from discretionary funds; a 2023 voter-file study found PB raised individual voting probability by 8.4 percentage points, with larger effects among low-propensity voters.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-20

[New York City Council / Participatory Budgeting Project](#) — accessed 2026-10-20

[Testing the participation hypothesis \(Political Behavior, 2023\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-20

[DNAinfo — PB brings women, minority voters](#) — accessed 2026-10-20

[Next City — The Equity Factor](#) — accessed 2026-10-20

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