

Greensboro Participatory Budgeting Phase I Evaluation Report

Dr. Spoma Jovanovic

Vincent Russell

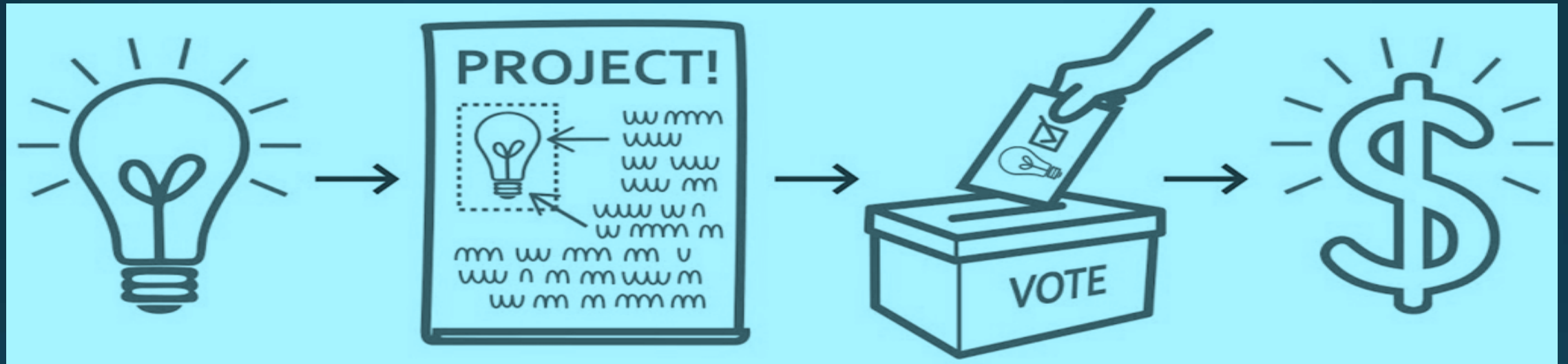
Rodney Johnson



Greensboro's Participatory Budgeting

- **Direct democracy** encouraging development of “public wisdom” by residents who allocate money from the city budget
- **Approved by City Council in October 2014**
- **\$500,000 to be allocated from 2016-2017 budget**
 - 0.23% of the General Fund Budget¹
 - \$100,000 per district
 - Capital projects only
- **Greensboro PB launched publicly in October 2015**
 - Steering Committee appointed by City Council

Participatory Budgeting Process



Residents
brainstorm ideas
Oct – Dec 2015

Budget Delegates
develop proposals
Jan – March 2016

Residents
Vote
April 2016

The top projects
win funding
FY 16-17

Evaluation Method

Idea Collection Phase: October – December 2015

- 159 surveys
- 223 pages, typed field notes from all 12 neighborhood assemblies
- 23 interviews

Budget Proposal Phase: December – in progress

- 40 surveys
- 72 pages, typed field notes (to 2/15/16)

"It served to validate what I think the city truly wants to be about, and what I feel the community truly needs, which is more interaction, feedback, and collaboration with the people of the city to improve the city."

District 1 resident

Idea Collection Events

- 12 neighborhood assemblies
- 24 pop-up events
- Promoted on social media, traditional media, and through community organizations and connections
- 1,098 participants
 - 146 at neighborhood assemblies
 - 952 at pop-up events
- 675 ideas collected
- 66 ideas submitted as project proposals to staff for review

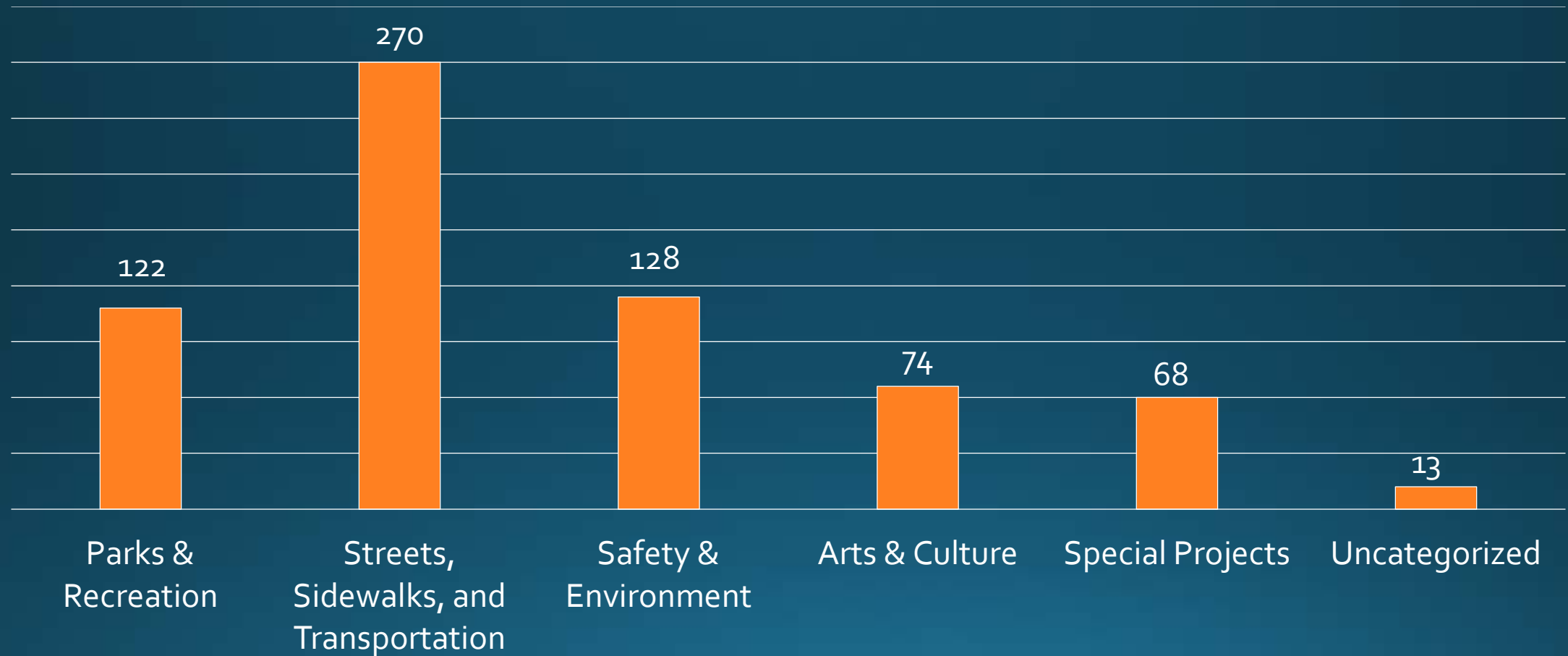


Neighborhood Assembly at Kathleen Clay Edwards Library, November 2015

"I'm impressed that this City Council would proceed with it [PB] and dedicate the money to this process. I appreciate the opportunity, and I have faith in my fellow citizens."

~District 4 resident

Greensboro PB Project Ideas by Category



*Based on 675 Submitted Ideas

Idea Collection Participants

Key Findings

- Participants were generally representative of Greensboro's population by City Council district and in ethnicity, income, and gender.
- 85% had not previously attended a City of Greensboro budget meeting.
- 41% worked with others in the past year to address a community concern.
- Nearly 3 out of 4 voted in the last local election.
- While most said they trusted Greensboro's elected leaders at least some of the time, 1 in 5 did not feel this way.

Interviewees Reported

- People enjoyed sharing ideas and discussions with other residents
 - PB is positively influencing civic engagement, social capital and **community building**.
- PB is seen as a starting point for deeper citizen engagement
 - PB is **empowering** participants and demonstrating inclusive, **equitable** practices that are drawing in historically underrepresented community members.
- People express more positive feelings for city government and council members
 - PB is fostering **transparent** relationships between residents and city government
- PB is recognized as time intensive



City department presentations to Budget Delegates, February 2016

"It [PB] was inspiring... I am looking forward to other opportunities to provide input in city projects and planning in the future."

District 2 resident

Next Steps for Evaluation

- Key Deliverables (by June 2016)
 - Complete data collection with budget delegates
 - Develop survey instruments for voting sites
 - Conduct interviews with select members of the Steering Committee, PB staff, city staff, and City Council

Conclusion

"This is such an important process that has HUGE potential to get folks feeling more connected to one another and potentially a greater sense of authentic citizen empowerment."

District 3 resident

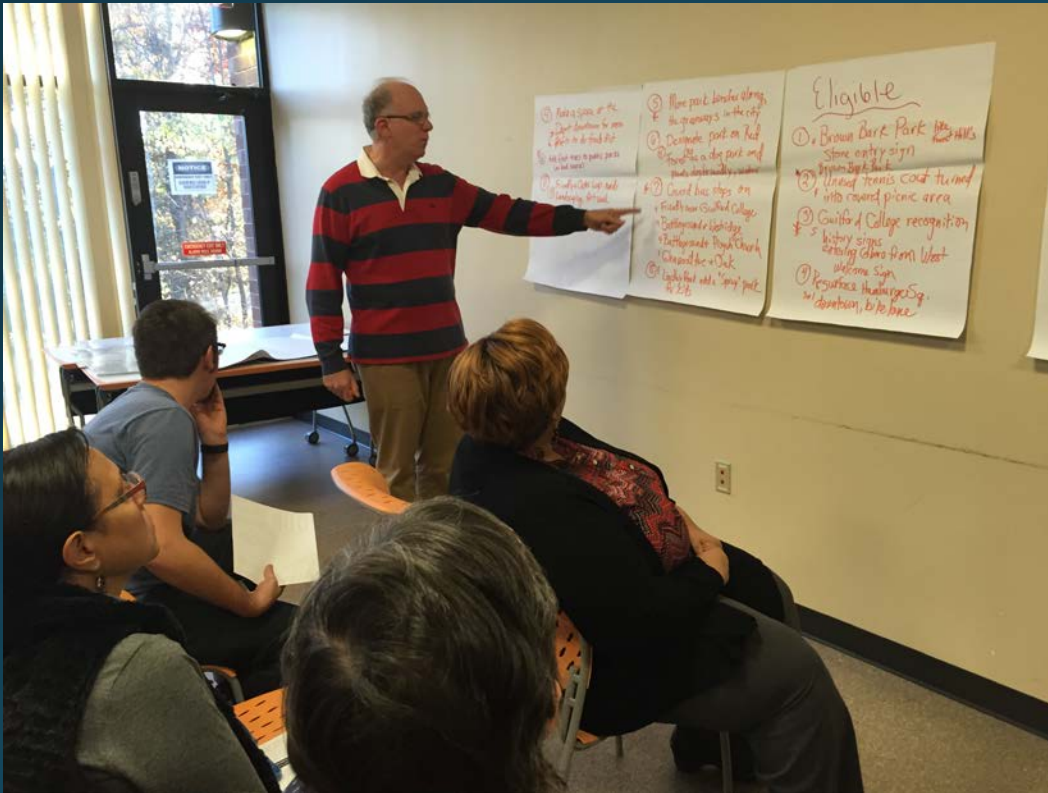
"I feel wide citizen participation is woefully at risk, so PB may stimulate a turnaround."

District 3 resident



City department presentations to Budget Delegates, February 2016

Thank You



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 - The City of Greensboro
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- **For questions and information:**
 - Dr. Spoma Jovanovic, s_jovano@uncg.edu, (336) 601-3282
 - Greensboro PB Local Research Board
 - GreensboroParticipatoryBudgetingResearch.weebly.com



GREENSBORO PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING COMMUNITY EXPO DATES



COME LEARN ABOUT PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!

International Community Expo

Friday, March 18, 2016

4 - 6:00 pm

Location TBD

District 1 Community Expo

Thursday, March 31, 2016

6 - 8:00 pm

Hayes-Taylor YMCA

2630 East Florida St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

District 2 Community Expo

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

6 - 8:00 pm

McGirt-Horton Library

2501 Phillips Ave.

Greensboro, NC 27405

District 3 Community Expo

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

6 - 8:00 pm

Central Library

219 N Church St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

District 4 Community Expo

Monday, March 28, 2016

6 - 8:00 pm

Benjamin Branch Library

1530 Benjamin Pkwy

Greensboro, NC 27408

District 5 Community Expo

Friday, April 1, 2016

6 - 8:00 pm

Griffin Recreation

5301 Hilltop Rd.

Greensboro, NC 27407

w. greensboro-nc.gov/pb | t. [@GreensboroPB](https://twitter.com/GreensboroPB) | f. [/PBGreensboro](https://www.facebook.com/PBGreensboro)

TEXT VOTE TO 1-855-910-7110 FOR UPDATES

GREENSBORO PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

COMMUNITY VOTE DATES

Week 1: April 11 – 15

COME VOTE ON PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!

District 1 Community Vote

Friday, April 15, 2016

4:00 - 8:00 pm

Hayes-Taylor YMCA

2630 East Florida St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

District 3 Community Vote

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

4:00 - 8:00 pm

Central Library

219 N Church St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

District 5 Community Vote

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

4:00 - 8:00 pm

Hemphill Library

2301 W Vandalia Rd.

Greensboro, NC 27407

District 2 Community Vote

Thursday, April 14, 2016

4:00 - 8:00 pm

McGirt-Horton Library

2501 Phillips Ave.

Greensboro, NC 27405

District 4 Community Vote

Monday, April 11, 2016

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Kathleen Clay Edwards Library

1420 Price Park Dr.

Greensboro, NC 27410

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GREENSBORO PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

COMMUNITY VOTE DATES

Week 2: April 18 – 22

COME VOTE ON PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!

District 1 Community Vote

Thursday, April 21, 2016

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Glenwood Library

1901 W Florida St.

Greensboro, NC 27403

District 2 Community Vote

Monday, April 18, 2016

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Windsor Recreation Center

1601 East Gate City Blvd.

Greensboro, NC 27401

District 3 Community Vote

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Central Library

219 N Church St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

District 4 Community Vote

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

4:00 - 8:00 pm

Lindley Recreation Center

2907 Springwood Dr.

Greensboro, NC 27403

District 5 Community Vote

Friday, April 22, 2016

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Griffin Recreation Center

5301 Hilltop Rd.

Greensboro, NC

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