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Participatory Budgeting Process in Seattle Seeks Staff, Steering Committee, and Working Group Members

As the process prepares to launch, there are several avenues for community to get involved and lead the way

SEATTLE- The Participatory Budgeting Project (PBP) is recruiting local staff, Steering Committee, and Working Group members to shape, launch, and run one of the biggest participatory budgeting (PB) processes ever in the United States.

Five Seattle-based Full-time Positions:

- [Community Engagement Director](#)
- [Community Engagement Manager](#)
- [Participatory Budgeting Coordinator](#)
- (2) [People's Fellowship Managers](#)

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, but interviews are ongoing, and we are looking to hire ASAP. We strongly encourage applications from Black, Indigenous, and people of color, women, people with disabilities, and LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Steering Committee: The steering committee will inform design decisions for the Participatory Budgeting (PB) process and serve as a core accountability partner to PB stakeholders to ensure it meets the needs of people who live and work in Seattle residents and are impacted by systemic lack of investment in the city's historically underserved Black community.

Working Groups: Group members will bring their specialized skills to the following workgroups: Accountability and Restorative & Proactive Safety Working Group, Lived Experience & Outreach Workgroup, Budget Delegate & Facilitation Workgroup, and Evaluation & Data.

Participatory Budgeting Project Technical Assistance Manager Kayla Knight emphasizes the importance and key role of local staff and committee members to ensuring a generative process: "In order make sure the PB process has the support it needs—and in order to ensure this work is rooted in and connected to the Seattle community—we are excited to hire 5 full time local staff, recruit a robust Steering Committee, and identify Working Group Members with specialized skills and experiences to create a PB process in Seattle that is equitable, accessible, and transparent," she said.

About Participatory Budgeting Project



Since 2009, PBP has collaborated with cities, schools, and organizations across North America to provide community education and implementation support, including evaluation, for participatory budgeting processes. PBP creates and supports participatory budgeting processes that deepen democracy, build stronger communities, and make public budgets more equitable and effective. In April 2022, the City of Seattle awarded the contract to run Seattle’s Participatory Budgeting process to our team to operate as the third-party administrator.

About the Seattle Office for Civil Rights:

The Seattle Office for Civil Rights (SOCR) works to advance civil rights and end barriers to equity. SOCR enforces laws against illegal discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and contracting within Seattle city limits. SOCR leads the Race & Social Justice Initiative, a citywide effort to end institutional racism in City government and to achieve racial equity across our community.

Commented [DB1]: Could there be more background of relationship between City and PBP either down here or in the body? Is not clear from reading this that they have a contract with the city to do this work

Commented [RN2R1]: Yes! Great suggestion. I'll add to the footers.