


District 44

Council Member David Greenfield


Brooklyn



Resurface the worst streets in Borough Park



Beautify the Blocks of Borough Park (Planting 100 Trees)



Technology Upgrades at Brooklyn Public Library branches of Midwood, Mapleton and Ryder



Resurface the worst streets in Midwood

District 44

Council Member David Greenfield

Council Member David Greenfield's district includes the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Borough Park, Midwood and Bensonhurst. More than three-quarters (77%) of district residents identify as White. In addition 13% of residents identify as Asian, 9% as Hispanic or Latino/a and 1% as Black or African-American.* The district also has a large Orthodox Jewish community that primarily speaks Yiddish at home; only 34% of residents in the district primarily speak English despite 59% being born in the U.S. More than half (53%) of residents have formal education levels of a high school diploma or less and 44% have incomes below \$35,000.

Limited data was collected from District 44 due to low survey return rates, so the information gathered provides a snapshot of only some PB participants. Those who did complete a survey were more likely to be White, English-speaking, born in the U.S. and have a bachelor's, graduate or professional degree than general voting-age district population. Compared to last cycle, there was an increase in surveyed PB voters who had less than a Bachelor's degree and who reported household below incomes \$35,000. The district saw a decrease in overall participant numbers this cycle, indicating a need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts. The majority of the projects on District 44's ballot were in the parks and recreation category, with other projects for transportation and schools and libraries.

"Nobody knows their block or neighborhood like the residents who live there, so it only makes sense to give the public more say over the city budget...That's why I am proud to once again bring this great experiment in open government to the residents of my district and really give them a voice in how their tax dollars are reinvested in our community."⁸⁷

(Council Member David Greenfield, District 44)

District 44 Overall

Population:

168,385

Number of PB

Participants:

1,270

Neighborhoods:

Borough Park

Midwood

Bensonhurst

* Note that the secondary data used throughout this section derives from several sources: the 2010 Decennial Census and the American Community Survey 2008-2012 five year estimates are used for demographic data of district residents, and data about 2013 local election voters comes from the Voter activation Network and Catalist. For more on these data sources, see the appendix of this report.

Who Participated in District 44?

In District 44, PB engaged 1,270 people, including: 39 neighborhood assembly participants, 12 budget delegates, and 1,222 voters. Demographic information is collected at key points during the PB process. District 44's surveys, particularly during the vote, had very low rates of return. As a result, that data cannot be used to draw conclusions about overall participation in the district, and provides only a snapshot of some participating district residents.

1,270
people

(1,719 in Cycle 2)

39

neighborhood
assembly
participants

(97 in Cycle 2)

12

Budget
Delegates

(15 in Cycle 2)

1,222

voters

(1,610 in Cycle 2)



Race/Ethnicity

- People who identified as White made up the majority of surveyed neighborhood assembly participants (78%) and PB voters (86%). This compares to 74% of voting-age district residents. Last cycle, 76% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 94% of voters identified as White.
- 3% of surveyed PB voters identified as Asian, compared to 14% of voting-age district residents.
- 10% of surveyed PB voters identified as Hispanic or Latina/o, consistent with the voting-age district population. This compares with 3% of surveyed voters last cycle, and 5% of 2013 local election voters.



Language and Country of Birth

- People who reported English as their primary language were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants (96%) and PB voters (86%) compared to the voting-age district population (33%).
- A greater percentage of people who reported English as their primary language participated in this cycle than in Cycle 2 (86% compared to 74%).
- People who were born in the United States were overrepresented among neighborhood assembly participants (67%) and PB voters (73%) compared to the voting-age district population (46%).



Gender

- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters this cycle than in Cycle 2 (71% compared to 50%).
- Men and women participated in the neighborhood assemblies at similar rates (52% and 48%, respectively).



Income

- A greater percentage of surveyed PB voters reported household incomes below \$35,000 this cycle than in Cycle 2 (74% compared to 36%). This compares to 44% of households in the district.
- A greater percentage of people who reported household incomes above \$50,000 participated in a neighborhood assembly (57%) than voted in PB (21%).
- People who reported household incomes of less than \$35,000 were overrepresented among surveyed PB voters (74%) compared to the 2013 local elections (33%).



Age

- People between the ages of 15 and 24 were overrepresented at the PB vote compared to the PB-eligible district population (39% compared to 20%).
- A lesser percentage of people between the ages of 25 and 54 participated in this cycle compared to Cycle 2 (15% and 51%, respectively).
- A greater percentage of people 65 years and older participated in a neighborhood assembly (44%) and voted in PB (37%) than the 2013 local elections (27%). This compares to 17% of district residents.

Women made up 71% of surveyed PB voters this cycle.

Compared to 50% in Cycle 2.

* Note that for comparisons of age, the Census data used was for district residents ages 15 and above. This is the closest approximation of PB-eligible residents that is available.



Education

- People with Bachelor's or graduate degrees were overrepresented at neighborhood assemblies compared to district residents (48% and 28%, respectively). This compares to 22% of surveyed PB voters.
- A greater percentage of people over 25 without a college degree voted in PB this cycle (79%) than in Cycle 2 (57%).
- People among all education levels voted in PB at a similar percentage to the district population.

Community members brainstorm ideas at a neighborhood assembly in District 44.



What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 44?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 87% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB prior to voting.
- 30% of neighborhood assembly participants and 6% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

- 96% of neighborhood assembly participants and 68% of surveyed PB voters were registered to vote. This compares to 93% of neighborhood assembly participants 79% of PB voters last cycle.
- 37% of surveyed PB voters were unlikely voters in regular elections (reporting that they never, rarely or sometimes vote). This is comparable to last cycle.

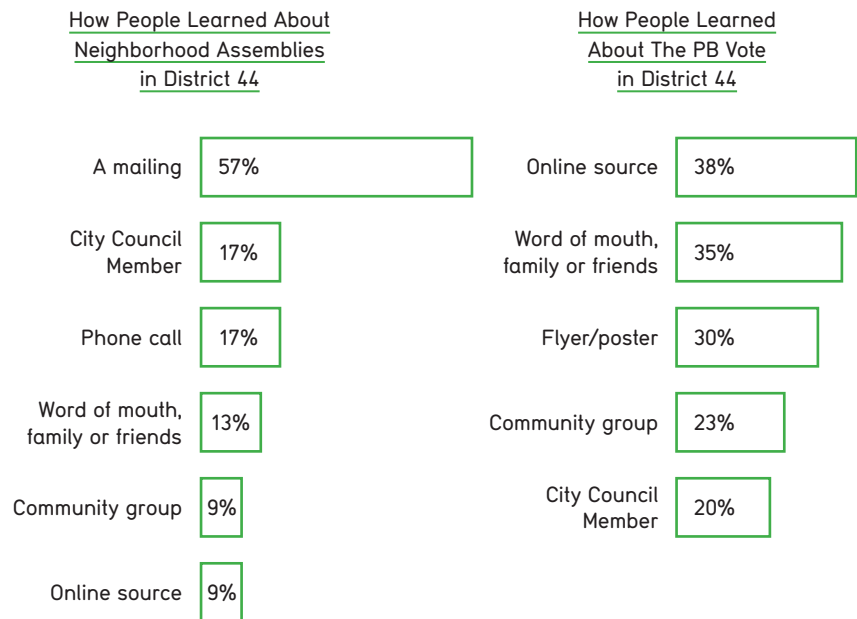
37% of surveyed PB voters were unlikely voters in regular elections.

Working with Others in the Community

- 48% of neighborhood assembly participants and 92% of surveyed PB voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems. This compares to 59% of assembly participants and 70% of PB voters in Cycle 2.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 44?

Due to the small number of surveys collected in District 44, broad conclusions cannot be drawn about the impact of various outreach and engagement strategies. However, from those surveys that were returned, the City Council Member, online sources, social networks (family, friends and word of mouth) and flyers and posters arose as the primary ways that people found out about PB in the district in both phases, with the addition of mailing and phone calls in the assembly phase.

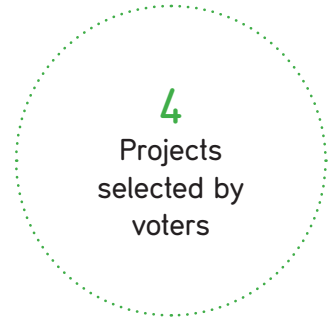
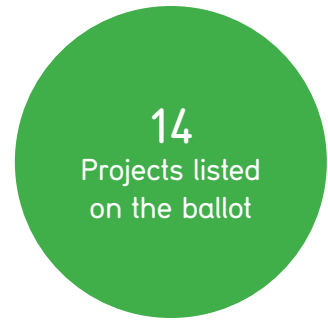


What were the priorities of District 44 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

In September and October of 2013, District 44 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

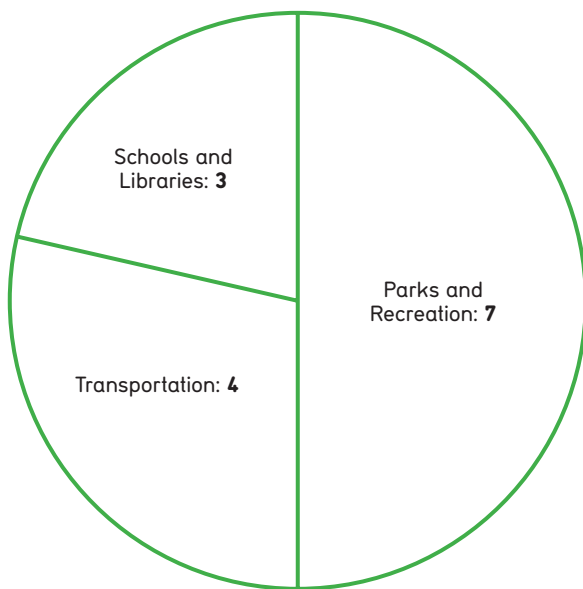
Following the neighborhood assemblies, participants volunteered to be budget delegates and formed committees to develop specific projects from the ideas proposed at the neighborhood assemblies. This work resulted in the District 44 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 44.



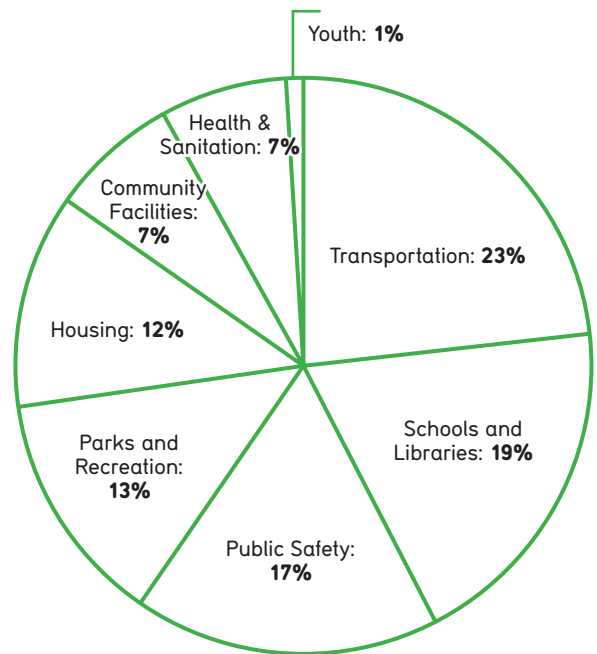
Projects on District 44 Ballot

Total Number: 14
Average Cost: \$208,929



Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 44 PB voters?

(N=69)





A Winning Project from District 44

Technology Upgrades at Brooklyn Public Library branches of Midwood, Mapleton, and Ryder

\$200,000

623 out of 1,222 votes

This project—the most popular among PB voters in District 44 this year—will benefit three Brooklyn Public Library branches in the district. The \$200,000 allocated by the Council Member toward this project will go towards improving the technology at Midwood, Mapleton and Ryder libraries. Each branch location will each receive new computers and other needed technology upgrades.

District residents who frequent these libraries, some of whom may not have access to computers or internet at home, will be able to utilize this new and improved equipment.

Winning Projects

4 Winning Projects: District 44

1,222 voters cast a ballot for their top five projects in District 44. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

<u>Project</u>	<u># of Voters</u>	<u>% of Voters</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Technology Upgrades at Brooklyn Public Library branches of Midwood, Mapleton, and Ryder	623	51%	\$200,000
Resurface the Worst Streets in Borough Park	596	49%	\$300,000
Resurface the Worst Streets in Midwood	511	42%	\$300,000
Beautify the Blocks of Borough Park (Planting 100 Trees)	443	36%	\$170,000
<u>Total</u>			<u>\$970,000</u>

Lessons Learned/ Summary from District 44

This was District 44's second cycle participating in PB. There were low rates of survey return in the district, so the data collected provides a snapshot of only some PB participants. Among those who were surveyed, there were small increases in PB voters who Hispanic, Latina/o or Asian. Asian participants were underrepresented as compared to the voting-age population of the district. PB participants were more likely to be English-speaking and born in the United States, as compared to voting age district residents. There was an increase this cycle in surveyed PB voters who had less than a Bachelor's degree and who reported household below incomes \$35,000. The district also an overall decrease in participants this cycle, indicating the need for ongoing outreach and engagement efforts in future cycles. Council Member Greenfield allocated \$970,000 to the four winning projects from the ballot.

District 44 Demographics

		<u>Census Data</u>	<u>Neighborhood Assemblies</u>	<u>Difference Neighborhood Assemblies Years 2 & 3</u>	<u>Budget Delegates</u>	<u>PB Voters</u>	<u>Diff. PB Voters Years 2 & 3</u>	<u>Voters in 2013 Local Elections</u>	<u>Difference between PB & 2013 Voters</u>
		Age 18+	N=28		N=11	N=76			
<u>Gender</u>	Female	51%	48%	-22%	27%	71%	+22%	49%	+22%
NA: N=27	Male	49%	52%	+22%	73%	29%	-22%	51%	-22%
BD: N=11	Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
Voters: N=68									
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	Asian	14%	13%	+5%	36%	3%	+3%	4%	-1%
NA: N=23	Black	1%	0%	-3%	0%	0%	+0%	2%	-2%
BD: N=11	Latino/a	10%	0%	-3%	36%	10%	+7%	5%	+5%
Voters: N=70	White	74%	78%	-6%	27%	86%	-7%	85%	+1%
	Other	1%	9%	-2%	9%	4%	-3%	1%	+3%
<u>Highest Level of Education</u>	Some H.S. or less	23%	4%	-1%	9%	19%	+6%	N/A	N/A
NA: N=23	H.S. Diploma/GED	31%	13%	+8%	9%	31%	-4%	N/A	N/A
BD: N=11	Some College	13%	17%	+1%	9%	19%	+10%	N/A	N/A
Voters: N=42	Associate's Degree	6%	17%	+1%	0%	10%	+10%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	17%	13%	-24%	27%	12%	-10%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	11%	35%	+14%	55%	10%	-12%	N/A	N/A
<u>Household Income</u>	Less than \$10,000	10%	13%	+3%	0%	20%	+12%	0%	+20%
NA: N=16	\$10,000-\$14,999	8%	6%	+6%	0%	20%	+16%	0%	+20%
BD: N=11	\$15,000-\$24,999	14%	0%	-10%	9%	12%	-12%	5%	+7%
Voters: N=41	\$25,000-\$34,999	12%	13%	+0%	9%	22%	+22%	28%	-6%
	\$35,000-\$49,999	13%	13%	-6%	0%	5%	-3%	50%	-45%
	\$50,000-\$74,999	16%	13%	+0%	46%	10%	-6%	16%	-6%
	\$75,000-\$99,999	9%	6%	-1%	0%	2%	-6%	1%	+1%
	\$100,000-\$149,000	11%	19%	+2%	36%	2%	-22%	0%	+2%
	\$150,000 or more	8%	19%	+6%	0%	7%	-1%	0%	+7%
<u>Age</u>	15 to 17 years	6%	4%	+4%	0%	14%	+7%	N/A	N/A
NA: N=25	18 to 19 years	4%	0%	-4%	0%	14%	+14%	7%	+18%
BD: N=11	20 to 24 years	10%	4%	-5%	0%	11%	+0%		
Voters: N=73	25 to 34 years	19%	4%	+0%	18%	7%	-22%	17%	-10%
	35 to 44 years	14%	4%	-26%	27%	1%	-10%		
	45 to 54 years	15%	20%	+3%	18%	7%	-4%	49%	-31%
	55 to 64 years	15%	20%	+7%	36%	10%	-4%		
	65+ years	17%	44%	+22%	0%	37%	+19%	27%	+10%
<u>Language</u>	English	33%	96%	-2%	86%	86%	+12%	N/A	N/A
NA: N=24	Spanish	9%	0%	+0%	14%	6%	+6%	N/A	N/A
BD: N=7	Other	58%	8%	-9%	0%	11%	-15%	N/A	N/A
Voters: N=73									
<u>Country of Birth</u>	United States	46%	67%	N/A	44%	73%	-6%	N/A	N/A
NA: N=27	Puerto Rico	2%	0%	N/A	0%	3%	+3%	N/A	N/A
BD: N=9	Other	52%	33%	N/A	56%	24%	+3%	N/A	N/A
Voters: N=70									