

District 45

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

Queens

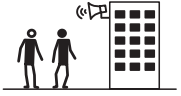
Brooklyn




Computer Technology
for Seniors (Glenwood
Senior Center)



Public Safety
Camera Project



Public Announcement
System for Students
(PS 208)



Keep Schools Cool
(Air Conditioning System
in Cafeteria of PS 208)

District 45

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams's district in Brooklyn includes the neighborhoods of Flatbush, East Flatbush, Flatlands and parts of Midwood and Canarsie. Two thirds of district residents identify as Black or African-American, with 21% identifying as White, 9% as Hispanic or Latina/o, and 5% as Asian. Nearly half (48%) of residents were born outside the United States, and 30% report that English is not their primary language, with 7% indicating Spanish and 23% indicating another language. Nearly half of district residents over the age of 25 (47%) report a level of formal education at or below the level of high school diploma or GED. Around half of district residents (49%) have an annual household income of \$50,000 or less.

This is District 45's third PB cycle, as Council Member Williams was one of four Council Members to pilot PB in 2011-12. As with last cycle, people who identified as Black or African-American made up the majority of PB participants. Though participation by these community members decreased some from last cycle, they remain overrepresented in PB as compared to the overall district population. The district saw increased participation by lower-income residents, as well as strong turnout by people born outside the U.S., though non-English speakers remain underrepresented. Most of the projects on District 45's ballot were for schools and libraries, with one project each in the public safety and community facilities categories.

*"As one of the first Council Members to implement Participatory Budgeting, I'm glad that, once again, residents can go to a voting booth... and cast their votes on the projects that they think deserve city funding...They have a direct say in the expenditure of one-million dollars, and I know that residents appreciate being able to give their input at their neighborhood assemblies and at the voting booth. The most important thing I do as a Council Member is to help pass a 70 billion dollar budget in the City Council, however, it's often the thing that the public is given the least amount of information about. Participatory Budgeting allows them to be a part of the process."*⁸⁸

(Council Member Jumaane D. Williams, District 45)

District 45 Overall

Population:

152,160

Number of PB

Participants:

1,107

Neighborhoods:

Flatbush

East Flatbush

Flatlands

Parts of Midwood
and Canarsie

* 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 45?

In District 45, PB Engaged 1,107 people, including: 58 neighborhood assembly participants, 19 budget delegates and 1,065 voters. Demographic information collected at key points during the process points towards several trends in participation, including the following:

1,107
people

(1,035 in Cycle 2,
1,553 in Cycle 1)

58

neighborhood
assembly
participants

(120 in Cycle 2,
579 in Cycle 1)

19

Budget
Delegates

(39 in Cycle 2,
52 in Cycle 1)

1,065

voters

(940 in Cycle 2,
1,085 in Cycle 1)



Race/Ethnicity

- People who identified as Black or African-American made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (65%) and PB voters (79%). While this is a decrease from PB last cycle (70% of assembly participants and 89% of voters) people who identified as Black or African-American remained overrepresented when compared with the voting-age population of the district (66%) and the 2013 local elections (71%).
- People who identified as White were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (30%) compared to voting-age district residents (19%). 14% of PB voters identified as White.
- PB voters identifying as Asian (2%) and Hispanic or Latina/o (4%) were underrepresented when compared to the voting-age population (4% Asian and 8% Hispanic or Latina/o).



Language and Country of Birth

- People who primarily speak a language other than English were underrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies (3%) and PB vote (8%) compared to the overall population of the district (30%).
- People who were born outside of the U.S. voted in PB at similar percentages in Cycle 3 (53%) and Cycle 2 (52%). This compares to 59% of district residents.
- People born in the U.S. were overrepresented at the neighborhood assemblies compared to the general population (70% compared to 41%).

65% of neighborhood assembly participants and **79%** of PB voters identified as Black or African-American.



Gender

- Women made up the majority of neighborhood assembly participants (67%) and PB voters (69%).
- Women made up a greater percentage of PB voters compared to 2013 local election voters (69% compared to 61%).

53% of PB voters this cycle were born outside of the U.S.

Compared to **52%** in Cycle 2 and **59%** of district residents.



Income

- A greater percentage of people with incomes under \$35,000 voted in PB (43%) compared to the voting-age population of the district (35%) and voters in the 2013 local elections (9%). This compares with and 40% of PB voters last cycle.
- People with incomes over \$100,000 participated in the neighborhood assemblies at a higher rate than voted in PB (42% compared to 12%). This compares with 22% of households in the district.



Age

- A greater percentage of people 65 years and older voted in this cycle of PB (32%) compared with Cycle 2 (17%). This compares with 15% of PB-eligible district residents.
- People under 25 years old voted in PB at rates similar to their representation in the general population (15% of voters compared with 18% of the PB-eligible population).



Education

- People over 25 with education levels of a high school diploma or less were underrepresented at neighborhood assemblies (6%) and the PB vote (27%) compared to the overall population (47%).
- A greater percentage of people reported having less than a Bachelor's degree in PB this cycle compared to Cycle 2 (60% this cycle compared to 50% last cycle).

* 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.

What were the civic engagement patterns of PB participants in District 45?

Previous Engagement with PB

- 82% of PB voters had not participated in this cycle of PB prior to voting. This compares to 71% of Cycle 2 voters who only participated in Cycle 2 by voting.
- 36% of neighborhood assembly participants and 17% of PB voters had participated in the previous cycle of PB. This compares to 34% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 37% of PB voters from Cycle 2 who had participated the previous cycle.

Voting Patterns and Barriers

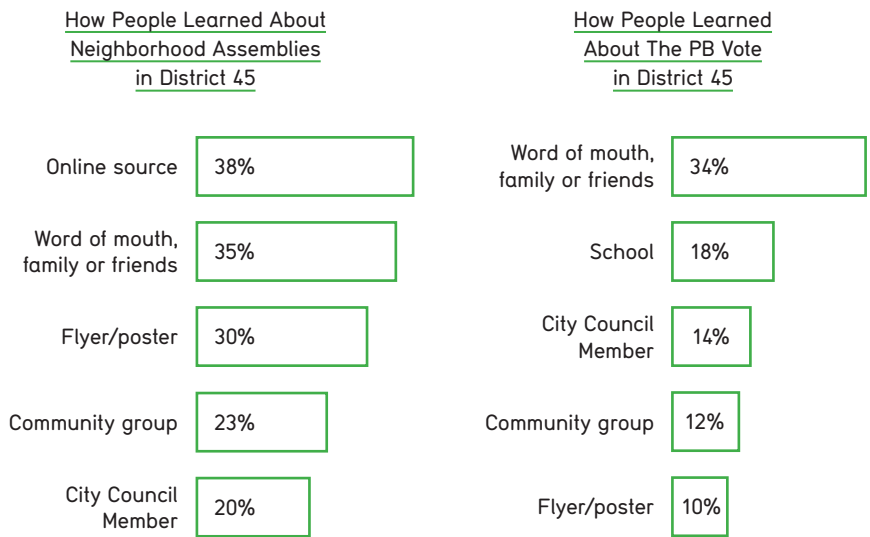
- 90% of neighborhood assembly participants and 84% of PB voters were registered to vote. This compares with 78% of neighborhood assembly attendees and 83% of voters in Cycle 2.
- 3% of neighborhood assembly participants and 9% of PB voters were not registered to vote because they were not U.S. citizens.

Working with Others in the Community

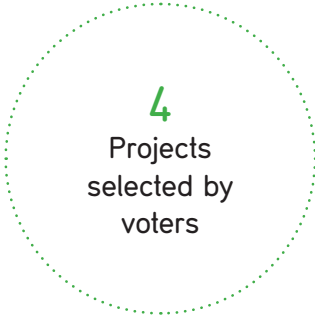
- 24% of neighborhood assembly participants and 72% of voters had never worked with others in their community to solve community problems. This compares to 33% of neighborhood assembly participants and 50% of PB voters in Cycle 2 who had not worked with others to solve community problems.

How did people hear about participatory budgeting in District 45?

Social networks (family, friends and word of mouth) were important in getting the word out about PB in District 45. Participants were most likely to hear about the Neighborhood Assemblies online, such as through e-mail, social media or other online sources, but such sources did not play a major role in vote outreach. Community groups, the Council Member’s office, and outreach through flyers were also important for communicating about PB. Schools also helped inform people about the PB vote.



* 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.



What were the priorities of District 45 PB voters, what projects made it to the ballot, and what won the vote?

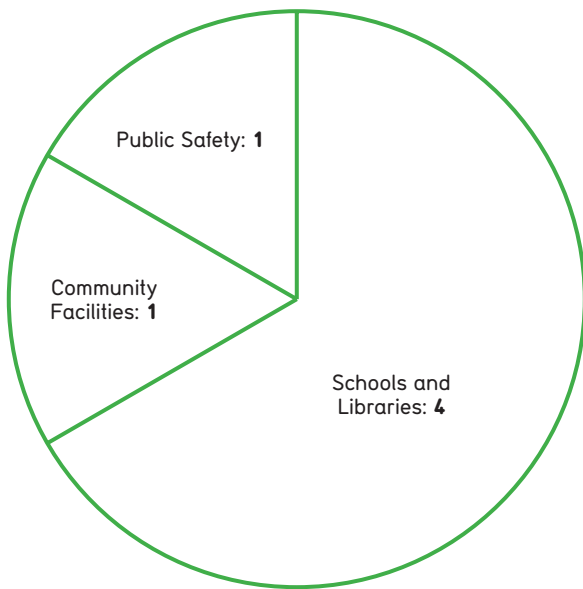
In September and October of 2013, District 45 held neighborhood assemblies that allowed community residents and stakeholders to propose projects to improve their neighborhoods.

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 45 PB ballot.

The following table shows the categories of projects that ended up on the ballot in District 45.

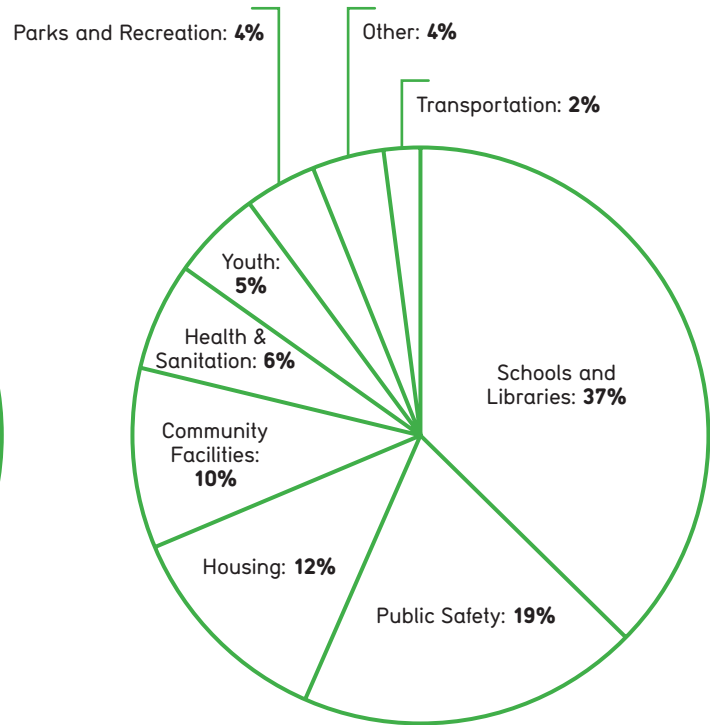
Projects on District 45 Ballot

Total Number: 6
Average Cost: \$285,167



Which category of project that they voted for was most important to District 45 PB voters?

(N=413)



Winning Projects

4 Winning Projects: District 45

1,065 voters cast a ballot for their top five projects in District 45. The following table shows the projects that were selected.

<u>Project</u>	<u># of Voters</u>	<u>% of Voters</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Keep Schools Cool (Air Conditioning System in Cafeteria of PS 208)	756	71%	\$225,000
Computer Technology for Seniors (Glenwood Senior Center)	684	64%	\$36,000
Public Announcement System for Students (PS 208)	648	61%	\$500,000
Public Safety Camera Project	614	58%	\$400,000
<u>Total</u>			<u>\$1,161,000</u>

Additionally Funded Project

In addition to the winning projects, the Council Member also dedicated funds to one project which was on the PB ballot but did not win. This indicates additional benefits that PB can bring to the district beyond those projects that win the vote.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
East Flatbush's First Culinary Roof Top Farm	\$50,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$50,000</u>



A Winning Project from District 45

Computer Technology for Seniors
 \$36,000
 684 out of 1,065 votes

The Glenwood Senior Center, which provides a variety of "healthy aging services and activities"⁸⁹ for older adults in District 45, is situated in Glenwood Houses, a New York City public housing development, and is operated by Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens. This project, which received the second highest number of votes from District 45 residents, will furnish the senior center with upgraded computer equipment. These upgrades will improve the access to technology for the seniors that frequent the center working toward, as the District 45 ballot describes, "improving computer literacy and helping them stay connected with family and friends."⁹⁰

Lessons Learned/ Summary from District 45

In its third cycle of PB, District 45 saw a small increase in the number of overall participants in PB. The district successfully engaged more community members who reported incomes below \$35,000. People who identified as Black or African-American again made up the majority of the participants, and, while there was a decrease in these community members from last cycle, they remained overrepresented in PB as compared to the general voting-age district population. While there was strong turnout by people born outside the U.S. (53%, nearly equal to the voting-age district population which is 59%), people who spoke a language other than English were underrepresented in the process, indicating that a focus on translated materials and interpretation at meetings in future cycles would be beneficial. Council Member Williams allocated nearly \$1.2 million to the four winning projects, plus an additional \$50,000 to one project which was one the ballot but did not win.



Participants at a neighborhood assembly in District 45 review the goals of the evening.

District 45 Demographics

		<u>Census Data</u> Age 18+	<u>Neighborhood Assemblies</u> N=44	<u>Difference Neighborhood Assemblies</u> Years 2 & 3	<u>Budget Delegates</u> N=16	<u>PB Voters</u> N=457	<u>Diff. PB Voters</u> Years 2 & 3	<u>Voters in 2013 Local Elections</u>	<u>Difference between PB & 2013 Voters</u>
<u>Gender</u> NA: N=37 BD: N=16 Voters: N=441	Female	56%	67%	+3%	81%	69%	+6%	61%	+8%
	Male	44%	32%	-4%	19%	31%	-6%	39%	-8%
	Other	N/A	0%	+0%	0%	0%	+0%	N/A	N/A
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u> NA: N=37 BD: N=16 Voters: N=377	Asian	4%	5%	+1%	19%	2%	+1%	1%	+1%
	Black	66%	65%	-5%	56%	79%	-10%	71%	+8%
	Latino/a	8%	3%	-10%	6%	4%	+0%	3%	+1%
	White	19%	30%	+12%	25%	14%	+10%	24%	-10%
	Other	2%	3%	-7%	0%	4%	-2%	0%	+4%
<u>Highest Level of Education</u> NA: N=30 BD: N=12 Voters: N=351	Some H.S. or less	13%	3%	-9%	0%	9%	-2%	N/A	N/A
	H.S. Diploma/GED	33%	3%	-11%	8%	18%	+4%	N/A	N/A
	Some College	19%	17%	-6%	8%	22%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Associate's Degree	9%	3%	-4%	8%	11%	+7%	N/A	N/A
	Bachelor's Degree	17%	33%	+5%	25%	18%	-15%	N/A	N/A
	Graduate Degree	9%	40%	+24%	50%	23%	+5%	N/A	N/A
<u>Household Income</u> NA: N=28 BD: N=12 Voters: N=319	Less than \$10,000	9%	14%	+3%	0%	12%	+3%	0%	+12%
	\$10,000-\$14,999	5%	0%	-15%	0%	9%	+2%	2%	+7%
	\$15,000-\$24,999	11%	11%	+4%	0%	11%	-1%	0%	+11%
	\$25,000-\$34,999	10%	4%	+0%	0%	11%	-1%	7%	+4%
	\$35,000-\$49,999	14%	14%	-1%	17%	14%	-8%	32%	-18%
	\$50,000-\$74,999	18%	7%	-19%	33%	18%	-3%	46%	-28%
	\$75,000-\$99,999	12%	7%	-4%	17%	12%	+5%	10%	+2%
	\$100,000-\$149,000	13%	21%	+15%	33%	10%	+2%	2%	+8%
\$150,000 or more	9%	21%	+17%	0%	2%	-1%	1%	+1%	
<u>Age</u> NA: N=37 BD: N=15 Voters: N=436	15 to 17 years	5%	14%	+12%	13%	7%	+6%	N/A	N/A
	18 to 19 years	4%	0%	-9%	0%	3%	-2%	4%	+4%
	20 to 24 years	9%	5%	-2%	7%	5%	+0%		
	25 to 34 years	17%	11%	-4%	7%	13%	-8%	9%	+4%
	35 to 44 years	16%	3%	-10%	0%	10%	-8%		
	45 to 54 years	18%	19%	-5%	13%	16%	-1%	57%	-16%
	55 to 64 years	15%	30%	+19%	33%	15%	+0%		
65+ years	15%	19%	+0%	20%	32%	+15%	30%	+2%	
<u>Language</u> NA: N=39 BD: N=16 Voters: N=430	English	70%	100%	+1%	94%	96%	+5%	N/A	N/A
	Spanish	7%	0%	-2%	0%	4%	+2%	N/A	N/A
	Other	23%	3%	-4%	6%	4%	-3%	N/A	N/A
<u>Country of Birth</u> NA: N=37 BD: N=15 Voters: N=423	United States	41%	70%	N/A	67%	47%	-1%	N/A	N/A
	Puerto Rico	2%	0%	N/A	0%	1%	+1%	N/A	N/A
	Other	57%	30%	N/A	33%	52%	+0%	N/A	N/A