



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

What are participatory budgets?

These are democratic processes in which citizens directly decide what part of the municipal budget is allocated to.

The people who participate through the web, propose expenditure projects. After the phases of support, evaluation and voting, the City Council carries out the most voted by citizens from the following year.

They are endowed with 100 million euros

30% (30 million euros) will be allocated to the implementation of economic projects that affect and are relevant to the entire city.

70% (70 million euros) will be allocated to the implementation of economic projects that especially benefit the districts.

The participative budgets that are decided in 2019 will be carried out from 2020 onwards.

Decided during 2019 and included in the 2020 budget

What projects can we propose?

We can propose projects of municipal competence in terms of current expenditure on goods and services, aid or subsidies and public investments (everything that the City Council can build or acquire, and that is expected to last more than a year).

Projects for the whole city are those that meet some of the following conditions:

They are not located in a specific district (for example, to improve some element that exists throughout the city, such as streetlights, litter bins, banks, etc.).

They affect several districts in an equivalent way (e.g. a bicycle lane running through the whole city from north to south).

They affect elements that are considered of relevance to the majority of inhabitants (a project related to the city's main park).

District projects are located in a particular district and do not meet the above conditions.

What projects can we NOT propose?

Projects that affect current contracts.

Projects that are intended to benefit a specific person or entity, and whose purpose is not the public interest.

If it cannot be defined as an expenditure project,

If it is not the competence of the City Council.

If its cost exceeds the amount determined for the whole city or districts,

If the project is already planned to carry it out (which implies some file or similar already completed previously where the latter can be clearly justified).

Projects of expenditure on current goods and services whose expenditure extends beyond two years.

For what purposes can we propose?

We can propose actions in the following areas:

Housing and urbanism

Urban environment (parks, public gardens, etc.)

Road infrastructure

Actions in situations of risk or social exclusion

Urban public transport

Protection of public health

Sport and the promotion of culture

Mobility

Traffic

Equity, Social Rights and Employment

Health and Consumption

Education

Transparency and Participation

Safety and Emergencies

Phases of the participatory budgeting process

<u>CALENDAR (example)</u>	
PROJECTS SUBMISSION	12/11/2018 – 06/01/2019
INITIAL REVIEW	07/01/2019 – 14/01/2019
SUPPORTS	15/01/2019 – 29/01/2019
EVALUATION	30/01/2019 – 26/05/2019
COST REVIEW	27/05/2019 -02/06/2019
FINAL VOTING	03/06/2019 – 30/06/2019

Phases of the participatory budgeting process

Channels of participation:

- Through the web
- In the Citizen Attention Offices.
- Signature sheets

What is project submission?

In this phase of project submission, any person registered in the city can submit expenditure projects, both for the whole city and for a specific district.

All the projects can be seen on the web as soon as they are presented. In addition, we contact the authors of similar projects to offer them the possibility of presenting their projects together.

What is project support?

Anyone registered in the city and over 16 can support spending projects for the city and for each of the districts.

The support phase reduces the number of projects that go to the final vote, so that the City Council can carry out all the evaluations of those most supported.

Projects can be supported via the web and at any of the Citizen Attention Offices spread across all districts. In addition, the collection of support can also be done through signature sheets.

The most supported projects go to the final vote after their evaluation.

What is project evaluation?

The City Council evaluates the most supported projects under the coordination of the Area to which the process corresponds, in collaboration with the rest of the corresponding Areas or districts.

The technical staff of the City Council carries out the feasibility and cost studies in an independent and neutral way, attending only to the criteria publicly marked for the process.

The evaluation confirms that the projects are valid, technically feasible and legal. It ensures that they are the competence of the City Council and can be included in the Municipal Budget. It is verified that the projects are not being carried out or foreseen in the current budget.

During this evaluation the projects are studied in descending order of support. Projects that enter the cut-off marks and are marked as viable go on to the final vote. The final decision on the viability of the project rests with the technical staff. At the end of the period, all approved and rejected projects are published with their corresponding reports and assessments.

What characteristics does the technical staff of the Town Hall evaluate in order to mark the project as viable?

Cost: an estimate is made of the projects proposed and excludes those that have a cost greater than the corresponding money.

In projects for the whole city or for a district, there is a different maximum cost ceiling. District projects that exceed the district but not the city cap will be recategorized as city projects rather than excluded.

Legality: the project must be the competence of the City Council, it is studied if there are contrary regulations to carry out the project, if there is already a contract in force that covers what is proposed in the project or some other limitation.

Feasibility: during the whole process it is studied if the project is technically viable.

The projects may deal with the following areas of expenditure of the Budget of the City council.

Chapter II: 'Current expenditure on goods and services'.

It concerns the maintenance of buildings, green areas, street furniture, public lighting, city cleaning, refuse collection, water, electricity, rents. In short, it is the operating costs of the city.

Provided that they do not affect existing contracts and that their expenditure is for a specific action or otherwise does not extend beyond two years.

Chapter IV: "Current transfers".

Included are contributions, such as the one made to the Regional Transport Consortium, and subsidies to families, companies and non-profit institutions for them to make current expenses.

Chapter VI: "Real investments".

Includes creating and reforming infrastructure. These are works in elderly centres, sports facilities, cultural centres, fire stations, schools, children's schools, parks and gardens, urbanisation works, purchase of furniture, computer equipment, etc.

Chapter VII: "Capital transfers".

These are the contributions and subsidies made by the City Council to entities, families and institutions to make their investments. It includes, for example, transfers to the Municipal Transport Company to buy buses or to the Municipal Housing and Land Company to buy land or houses.

Examples of possible projects: Services or works to be created or carried out that can be started up by municipal services or by third parties. (expenditure chapter II):

Creation of workshops and courses.

Renting a type of infrastructure or material.

Carrying out studies.

Supplies of material not included in an inventory (e.g. distributing school materials or musical instruments).

New services not included in those already contracted by municipal services (for example, a free agency service for citizens, or creating an environmental education service for participation in park conservation, etc.).

Any action that is not already contemplated in the budgets of the different municipal services.

Administration materials and utensils, food and utensils, chemical, pharmaceutical and laboratory products, leases of premises for the development of activities, maintenance and conservation of facilities, dissemination and information services.

Examples of possible projects: Scholarships, grants, competitions, agreements (chapters IV and VII):

To grant scholarships to carry out courses.

Convoke competitions and prizes for performances of interest.

Agreements with the City Council to be able to offer services that are not currently available (agreement with Universities, agreements with NGOs), without violating the competition criteria required by law.

Grants that are not currently being given or want to increase: grants for accessibility facilities, soundproofing, beautification of the urban landscape. Any subsidy must be subject to law and allow free competition.

Examples of possible projects:

Chapter VI "Investments"

Anything that the City Council can build or acquire and its expected duration is greater than one year.

Creation of new infrastructures: urbanisation, roads, crossings at different levels, road signposting, street furniture, lighting, parks, landscaped areas, trees and planters, fountains and hydrants, sewers, etc.

Replacement of infrastructures: adaptation of plots of land, remodelling of roads and their signposting, reform of lighting, remodelling of parks, green zones, reform of fountains and ponds, etc.

Construction or refurbishment of buildings: day centres and senior centres, homeless centres, social service centres, libraries, cultural centres, sports facilities, sports centres, teaching centres, music schools, promotion and management of public housing, etc.

Acquisition or replacement of transport elements: buses, fire vehicles, police, mobility agents, etc.

Computer applications, intellectual property: development of applications, web etc.

Examples of non-viable projects

Construction of public high schools and colleges (the competence is of the regional government).

Construction of Health Centres (only in the case of municipal health centres).

Infrastructure of access roads to the city and railways.

Investment projects on non-municipal land or plots.

Personnel hiring expenses.

Subsidies and aid to families, non-profit institutions, foundations, private companies when a specific natural or legal person is detailed.

Create new police stations, or actions on them as they do not fall under municipal competence.

Underground network.

Cleaning, maintenance or security services already carried out under current contracts.

Hiring of "services/investments/helps" that already exist or are planned by the Municipal Administration Services.

The extension of the bus service timetable or the modification of routes, if they affect decisions to be taken by the Transport Consortium.

Investment costs and examples of "services/investments/aid" of the Town Hall.

THE FINAL VOTE ON PROJECTS

What are the requirements to vote on projects?

In the final voting phase, everyone registered in the city aged 16 and over can vote on projects for the entire city and for a specific district of their choice. You can vote even if you have not participated before and you do not need to be a resident in a district to support or vote for projects in that district.

When voting on citywide and district projects, the available budget and the projects with their estimated cost are published. Projects may be voted on one by one until the budget is exhausted, although it is not necessary to exhaust the budget. Voted bills are displayed on a top bar, where votes can be modified at any time until the end of the voting phase, including canceling the votes of the elected district and voting on another.

THE FINAL VOTE ON PROJECTS

What is the final result after the vote on participatory budgets?

The final result is obtained after voting with the projects sorted by number of votes for the city and for each district. In each list the projects are selected from the most voted to the least voted, taking into account that each project included does not exceed the remaining budget allocated to that list. If a bill exceeds this limit, it is ignored and moved to the next bill.

The final selection is integrated into the initial draft of the General Budget of the City Council approved by the Government. Once the Budget has been approved, each of the selected projects is published with a description of the actions (together with the publication of the Budget).