RISEHIGHER
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Participatory Budgeting Design Committee Scoring Rubric

Connection to Community – 10 total points available

Living in Detroit and submitting proof of residency is a requirement.

Applicants will receive 3 points for living in Detroit for more than 10 years.

Involvement with a Detroit based CBO, non-profit or block club will earn 3 points.

All other community connections will earn an additional point. Proof of additional community connections will be required upon selection notice. If applicant is unable to provide proof committee selection may be forfeited.

- Connection to Community
  - I've lived in Detroit for 10 years or longer
  - I work in Detroit
  - I own a business in Detroit
  - I attend school in Detroit
  - My children attend school in Detroit
  - I am involved in the Detroit based Community Benefits Organization, Non-Profit, or Block Club

Interest and Experience Questions – 15 total points available

Question: Why are you interested in serving on the Design Committee? (Describe your motivation, lived experience, or community involvement.)

Score	Description
1 - Very Limited	Provides little or no explanation of interest. Response is vague, generic, or unrelated to participatory budgeting, community engagement, or public service.
2 - Limited	Shows some interest in serving but provides minimal detail or connection to community, lived experience, or the committee's purpose.

3	Demonstrates a clear interest in serving and includes some relevant personal, community, or professional experience. Provides basic reasoning for participation.
4 - Strong	Clearly articulates meaningful motivation to serve. Connects lived experience, community involvement, or civic engagement to the goals of the committee. Demonstrates commitment to the community.
5 - Exceptional	Provides a compelling and detailed explanation of motivation. Demonstrates deep community connection, meaningful lived experience, and a strong commitment to advancing equitable community participation and PB goals.

Question: What unique experiences, skills, expertise, or perspectives would you bring to the committee?

Score	Description
1 - Very Limited	Identifies few or no relevant skills, experiences, or perspectives. Response lacks detail or relevance to committee responsibilities.
2 - Limited	Mentions some skills or experiences but provides little explanation of how they would contribute to committee work.
3 - Adequate	Identifies relevant skills, experiences, or perspectives and provides examples of how they may support committee responsibilities.
4 - Strong	Demonstrates multiple relevant skills or experiences, such as community leadership, engagement, project management, advocacy, or neighborhood knowledge. Clearly explains their value to the committee.
5 - Exceptional	Brings significant expertise, unique lived experience, leadership, or specialized knowledge that would strengthen committee decision-making, community outreach, and equitable participation. Clearly demonstrates how these assets will contribute to committee success.

Question: PB aims to include voices that are often left out of traditional government processes (e.g., youth, immigrants, low-income residents, unhoused individuals). How would you ensure the process is fair and inclusive for everyone?

Score	Description
1 - Very Limited	Provides little understanding of equity, inclusion, or barriers to participation. Response is vague or lacks actionable ideas.
2 - Limited	Acknowledges the importance of inclusion but offers few specific strategies for engaging underrepresented populations.
3 – Adequate	Demonstrates a basic understanding of equitable engagement and identifies at least one or two practical approaches to increase participation and reduce barriers.
4 - Strong	Provides multiple thoughtful strategies for ensuring accessibility, outreach, transparency, representation, and inclusive decision-making. Demonstrates understanding of community barriers.
5 – Exceptional	Presents a comprehensive and equity-centered approach. Demonstrates a strong understanding of systemic barriers and offers detailed, actionable strategies to engage underrepresented communities, build trust, remove participation barriers, and ensure fair representation throughout the PB process.

Lived Experiences

Lived experiences will not be scored. However, when making final sections of applicants with identical scores lived experiences will be considered.

Availability

Availability questions will not be score. However, answering no to either question will result in the disqualification of your application.