

Building Blocks

Neighbors creating Neighborhoods

The Potential

Streets and sidewalks are more important than just traffic conduits; they are public spaces where city life occurs. Streets and sidewalks are our backyards and can be the places where: neighbors meet, children play, commerce occurs, and people-watching happens.

The Problem

Residents lack clear guidelines or a process for making changes to the streets and sidewalks on their block.

Proposed Solution

To create a Borough President-led pilot program for block-level democratic decision-making. This process will gather neighbors and facilitate conversations and learning, ultimately allowing blocks to decide about the public spaces in front of their homes.

Why?

Creating a public engagement, communication, and change process would increase city residents' connection to their block, neighbors, and the city-at-large. Perhaps most importantly, this process would lead to things getting fixed and problems addressed.

Equitably distribute resources

Why Now?

Build on Open Streets Energy

Grow civic participation

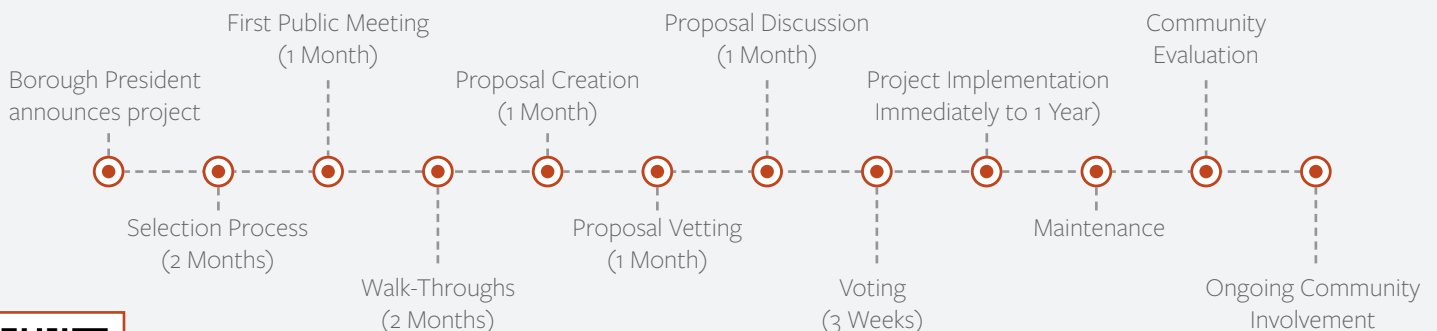
Borough President's Role

- 1 Block selection
- 2 Champion projects
- 3 Agency coordination
- 4 Attend ribbon cuttings

Proposed Resources

- 1 Borough President's Staff to facilitate and lead
- 2 Mini-grants per block - \$1,500 (childcare, translators, communications outreach, etc.)

TIMELINE



Open Plans uses tactical urbanism, grassroots advocacy, and targeted journalism to promote structural reforms within city government.

Email jacksonchabot@openplans.org to learn more.

