



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVP-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/03/26

This Filing is an: Original

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: 1

Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Max Steele

Phone: 503-740-2990

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Contact information for authorized changes: Max Steele

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This information furnished by: Max Steele

Organization Name:

Phone: 503-740-2990

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Formatted Statement

Have you enjoyed the last two years of cut budgets and drawn out fights to fund core services? If so, you'll love this opportunity to take at least **\$16 million** of annual discretionary spending from **essential services that Portlanders depend on**.

The best part is the funds can be drawn from **anywhere**.

- Want to defund the police? That's on the table.
- Voted against PCEF or the Parks Levy and lost? Maybe we'll take it from there.
- We get to relitigate every recent petty grievance and loss.
- City Workers will be directly affected, so if your beef is with **firefighters**, you're in for a treat.

It could end up being larger, but even 2% would put our participatory budget experiment at **more than eight times** the size of Boston's. Most cities only have the courage to put around **\$1 million** toward a program like this. With **\$16 million** on the line, Portland is raising the stakes.

After all, how can we come together to agree on a set of values and priorities unless we place every government program in peril? **Make them all fight and the cream will rise.** It worked for King Solomon with that baby. It can work for us! Instead of an old-fashioned sword, I recommend a **CHAINSAW***!

Portland faced \$170 million in cuts this year but I believe we can do things more aggressively and democratically through **committees**, and who doesn't love a nice committee?

Want to keep your public sector job? Cry in front of the committee. Maybe they'll take pity on you. Have an idea for a non-profit? Get your friends on the committee before you pitch it. **It's like a reality TV show.**

You should vote **yes** on what is likely to be one of the largest participatory budgets in the country. Why wait for declining revenue to cut our budget? Take a **CHAINSAW*** to it!

*** (Citizen-Helmed Austerity & Ideological Nonsense Supplanting Actual Work)**

Measure Argument Filing Attestation

By typing my name below, I am attaching my electronic signature and I hereby state that:

1. I am the author of this Measure Argument (ORS 251.415)
2. All of the information provided by me in this filing is true
3. I have read and understand the instructions for submitting this Measure Argument

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Signature: Max Steele

Date Signed(or amended): 8/30/2026 10:42 PM

Joint County Voters' Pamphlet Measure Argument

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Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the jurisdiction or district is located in more than one county, a separate JCVP-03 form must be filed with the appropriate fee or certified petition (JCVP-04) to each county where the Measure Argument is to be printed.

1. Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26☐ Amended Statement

Argument In Favor



Argument In Opposition

Measure # 26-267Order # 2 EK

2. Filer Checklist for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP) Measure Argument

☐ Typewritten & signed JCVP-03 form + attached Measure Argument ☐ Fee or JCVP-04 certified petition (Petition ID # _____)

☐ (If applicable) JCVP-02 Statement of Endorsement(s), #: _____ ☐ Word Count (325 MAXIMUM)

3. Argument Paid for or Petition Provided by

Community Budgeting for All PAC ID 23058

Phone: 503-295-1855

Name of person/organization paying or submitting petition for Measure Argument

Email: j.green@c-esystems.com

4. Contact Information for Authorized Changes

Edward Kurtz

Phone: 336-995-2177

Name of person authorized to make changes to Measure Argument

Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

5. "This Information Furnished by" "Name of person" required: ORS 251.355(2). Name(s) will be printed in the Voters' Pamphlet as provided.

Name of Person (Required):

Edward Kurtz

Organizational Name (If Applicable):

Yes on Your 2 Cents PDXPhone: 336-995-2177Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

6. Attestation

By signing this document, I hereby state I am responsible for the content of this argument. (ORS 251.415)

Name of Organization person(s) is (are) authorized to represent, if applicable: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Edward Kurtz

Printed Name of Person Furnishing Argument
(Must match Section 5)Signature of Person Furnishing Argument
(Must match Section 5)

Date

Printed Name of Person Furnishing Argument
(If applicable)Signature of Person Furnishing Argument
(If applicable)

Date

Note: If this argument is not being filed by a registered Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further details.

For Office Use Only

County: _____

Payment Method: _____

Ref. Number: _____

Amount/Petition #: _____

Required Info? Yes No

Signed? Yes No

Endorsements? Yes # _____ No

Intake Staff Initials: _____

Word Count (325 max):

Providing digital copy? Yes No

Received digital copy? Yes No

Review Staff Initials: _____

Vote YES for Your 2 Cents PDX! Measure 26-267.

Participatory budgeting lets people like you help decide how your City spends a small sum of money. It is used successfully in more than 7,000 cities around the world, and in over 100 US cities.

This measure does **not** raise taxes. A Yes vote for Measure 26-267 simply lets Portlanders help choose what our neighborhoods need most.

Portlanders can share their priorities and projects, and then vote on which ones you want to get a share of ~\$16 million. Then the winning items get funded.

Portlanders have lost trust in City Hall. Too much money has been misplaced or poorly managed while our schools struggle, parks go dark, shelters close, and city workers lose their jobs.

That's why we need Your 2 Cents now. Studies show that participatory budgeting is one of the best ways for cities to bring people together, make government more accountable, and get good things done for the community.

Metro is already doing this in Clackamas and Washington counties. For example, the Community Choice Grants program funded parks projects selected by community members, like a Willamette riverwalk and playground. Now it's time to bring it to Portland.

No city anywhere has laid off workers because of participatory budgeting. In fact, studies show that cities with PB programs often deliver more results for residents, with more cost efficiency.

Powerful Interests want to keep you out of the conversation. Your 2 Cents gives you a voice.

Measure 26-267 is supported by community organizations you trust, including:

- Multnomah County Democrats
- Democratic Socialists of America
- Sierra Club
- Next Up Action Fund
- East County Rising Action Fund
- Working Families Party
- American Federation of Teachers - Oregon
- PSU-AAUP
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Urban League of Portland
- Participatory Budgeting Oregon
- Portland Grey Panthers
- Imagine Black
- Mother PAC

- 350PDX
- First Unitarian Portland, Economic Justice Action Group

Learn more and see the full supporter list at Your2CentsPDX.com.

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Edward Kurtz

Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

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Edward Kurtz

9/4/26

Printed Name of Person Furnishing Argument
(Must match Section 5)

Signature of Person Furnishing Argument
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Frequently Asked Questions

1. How does participatory budgeting work?

Step 1: Residents like you propose budget priorities and/or projects, and city staff make sure they are doable.

Step 2: Portlanders vote on the priorities/projects. (In NYC, this happens online and at public libraries, see participate.nyc.gov.)

Step 3: The winning items get funded, and the cycle repeats.

2. What is Your Two Cents (Measure 26-267)?

A record-breaking 78,743 Portlanders signed a petition to create a **participatory budgeting** program, giving all Portlanders a direct say in how to spend \$16 million each year – equivalent to 2% of the city's \$800 million discretionary budget. The measure allows these funds to come from across the city's entire \$8.5 billion budget.

3. Will it raise my taxes?

No. Measure 26-267 does not raise taxes. It simply gives Portlanders a greater say in how existing city funds are spent.

4. Will it cut city jobs?

No. Measure 26-267 would **protect jobs**. **No participatory budgeting process in the world has ever cut jobs because it does not change the size of the budget, it just gives residents more say.** Your 2 Cents PDX would give Portlanders a way to fight back against city job cuts.

5. How much will it cost?

Approximately \$1-1.5 million annually. (The city's current budget for community outreach is \$5.1M).

6. Where is it successful?

More than **7,000 cities worldwide** have used participatory budgeting. New York City and Boston have operated programs for more than a decade as part of their city charters. In the U.S., more than 100 cities have successfully used participatory budgeting programs.

In Oregon, Metro Government has already completed two rounds of participatory budgeting in Washington and Clackamas Counties. It was so successful they plan to expand.

7. What types of projects could be funded through participatory budgeting?

- Street and sidewalk improvements
- Parks repair
- Public safety initiatives
- After-school programs
- Renter relief
- Services for seniors
- And much more, YOU decide!



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Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Community Budgeting for All PAC

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Formatted Statement

Healthy Democracy urges a YES vote on Measure 26-267 to pass

Your 2 Cents PDX.

Healthy Democracy is an Oregon-based nonprofit that works for more deliberative and inclusive democracy beyond elections. We strongly support bringing **participatory budgeting** to Portland through Measure 26-267 will strengthen both electoral and deliberative democracy in the City of Roses.

Broader & Deeper Engagement

Participatory budgeting takes public budgeting out into the community where people live and work. It is a proven mechanism for engaging a broader cross-section of the public. Research demonstrates

that when it allocates enough public money through a recurring process, as proposed in Measure 26-267, more and more diverse people participate, helping close the gap between those who do and who don't regularly engage. As participants acquire new civic and political knowledge, they participate in other ways and become more likely to vote in elections.

More Collaborative & Deliberative Governance

Participatory budgeting invites people to exercise real budgeting power together. It therefore requires them to engage across differences and in collaboration with government staff. Instead of who can yell the loudest or lobby the hardest at City Hall, residents and City staff collaborate to find workable solutions together in their communities. In the process, they adopt new perspectives and priorities, develop mutual trust, and discover new opportunities for collaboration.

More Effective and Creative solutions

Portlanders know what they need for their communities to thrive. Measure 26-267 will tap the ideas and expertise of diverse Portlanders to bring forth more responsive and creative solutions City Hall hasn't considered. Participatory budgeting provides an ongoing mechanism to pilot and prove new, innovative ideas that if successful can become part of the ongoing budget.

Healthy Democracy Urges Portlanders to Vote Yes on

Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents.

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/8/2026 4:45 PM



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ORS 251.335

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Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: **VS**

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Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

Formatted Statement

Portland Small Businesses For Your 2 Cents PDX

As small business owners, we understand the importance of sound budgeting for operational excellence and making effective use of scarce resources. Public budgeting in the City of Portland currently lacks adequate transparency and accountability. Recent City spending decisions, grants and even business loans have proceeded with little oversight and accountability which has further undermined the public trust.

We need new solutions to increase transparency and accountability, provide opportunities for more meaningful public participation, and rebuild public trust. We need to tap the ideas and knowledge of all Portlanders in developing, vetting, and funding feasible solutions to our City's most pressing challenges and opportunities. We need residents and City staff working together, on more equal terms, to shape strategic public investments in our neighborhoods and communities. We need measure 26-267 to finally bring participatory budgeting to Portland.

Measure 26-267 will allow all residents including small business operators to directly propose and select feasible and legal capital improvements, work force development programs, public safety initiatives, and other projects to strengthen the social fabric of neighborhoods and with it the vibrancy of the City's business districts.

Participatory budgeting is a demonstrated mechanism for increasing transparency, accountability and participation in public budgeting. In New York City public projects selected by residents through participatory budgeting are implemented quicker and with fewer complaints. Existing programs implemented in cities across the US and around the world for decades provide proven models and best practices Portland can build on and refine to adapt PB for our City.

For all these reasons, we, the undersigned small business owners in Portland, urge voters vote yes on Measure 26-267 for Your 2 Cents PDX.

Barb Grover, Splendid Cycles, SE Portland
Eli Spevak, Orange Splot LLC, NE Portland
Lily Burnett, Parkrose Coffee, East Portland
Mark Lakeman, Communitecture, SE Portland
Jeffrey Mandel, Exit Shoes, Downtown
Peter Platt, Andina Restaurant, NW Portland
Laura Streib, St. Johns Mercantile LLC, North Portland

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/6/2026 6:48 PM



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Measure Argument

JCVP-03

ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Amendment

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: 6

Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Community Budgeting for All PAC

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Contact information for authorized changes: Edward Kurtz

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This information furnished by: Edward Kurtz

Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Phone: 336-995-2177

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Formatted Statement

East Portland Residents for Your 2 Cents PDX

Measure 26-267 (Your 2 Cents) would give East Portlanders a direct say in delivering improvements by and for East Portlanders!

East Portland has long struggled to get its fair share in the budget process. East Portland has unique needs and presents challenges and opportunities long ignored by City Hall.

That is why we urge a yes vote to finally bring participatory budgeting to Portland.

That means East Portlanders – not lobbyists or City insiders – will determine outcomes for East Portland.

Your 2 Cents is an opportunity to advance long-sought City projects in District 1 serving East Portlanders including:

- Fire Station 29 Improvements (Powellhurst)
- Leach Botanical Garden

Sumner Neighborhood Park
150th & Division Community Garden
Rental Assistance & Anti-Displacement Programs
East Portland Grocery Stores
Neighborhood Greenways & Lighting
Mobile/Decentralized Community Services
International District & Music Venues
Soccer Fields
Sidewalk improvements
Youth Programs
Gateway Green Access Improvements & Recreation Programs
Rocky Butte Loop
Cultural & Business Districts Branding
Placemaking for crime prevention
East Portland Urban Shade (parks & street trees)

Join the undersigned East Portland residents and advocates, in voting YES on Measure 26-267.

Althea Ender, David Douglas School Board Member
Erica Fuller, Centennial
Gayle Palmer, Centennial
Helena Guerrero Sullivan, East County Rising
JR Lilly, Native American Community Leader
Lily Burnett, Parkrose
Linda Robinson, Hazelwood Park advocate
Leanna Petrone, East County Rising
Nick Sauvie, Housing Advocate
Stephanie Routh, Lents
Timur Ender, Mt. Hood Community College Board Member
Tom Lewis, Rockwood Water PUD Director
Ty Wilkins, Powellhurst-Gilbert
David Linn, Centennial School Board Director
Jose Gamero-Gerogeson, David Douglas School Board Director
Shattoyia Bentley, Mt. Hood Community College Board Member
Brian Ettling, Wilkes

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/8/2026 10:52 AM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet

Measure Argument

JCVP-03

ORS 251.335

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Election Date: 11/3/26

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Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: 67

Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Community Budgeting for All PAC

Phone: 503-295-1851

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Contact information for authorized changes: Edward Kurtz

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This information furnished by: Edward Kurtz

Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Phone: 336-995-2177

Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

Formatted Statement

Portland Black-led Organizations & Black Leaders Support Measure 26-267,

Your 2 Cents PDX

While the nation debates restricting democratic access and hard-fought civil rights, Portland is honoring the legacy of the Voting Rights Act by ensuring that every resident—regardless of traditional voting status—has a direct role in shaping our city's future.

Vote 'Yes' on the Ballot Measure 26-267 to guarantee our most disenfranchised communities have the seat at the table they deserve.

Participatory Budgeting builds real community power by:

Enfranchising Excluded Residents: This measure directly empowers all residents including residents who cannot vote, youth, justice-involved individuals, and unhoused neighbors who are locked out of traditional ballots. Research in NYC and Prague also demonstrates that PB increases voting rates among eligible voters.

Shifting Real Power from Insiders to All Residents: Rather than allowing well-funded lobbyists to control city spending behind closed doors, this measure gives all residents, including Black and marginalized communities, the chance to make binding decisions on how public money is invested in their neighborhoods and communities.

Amplify the lived experience of underrepresented residents and neighborhoods: This measure would tap the experience and expertise of ordinary residents regarding the needs of their communities. It also allows the City Council to commit more funding to historically under resourced City Districts like East Portland.

Your Two Cents finally gives Portlanders a chance to bring PB to Portland.

We the undersigned urge Portlanders to vote **YES** on the **Your 2 Cents PDX** measure.

Andre Middleton, Executive Director of Friends of Noise

Joy Alise Davis, Executive Director of Imagine Black

ShaToyia Bentley, Executive Director of Ebony Collective CDC

T. Winslow Spears, Co-Steward of York Collective

Justice Rajee, Director of Advocacy, Urban League of Portland

Germaine Flentroy, Director of Play Grow Learn LLC

Marcus Mundy, Executive Director of Coalition of Communities of Color

Paula M. Byrd, Interim Executive Director of Rosewood Initiative

Erica Fuller, PDX Metro AfroSOC

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Measure #: 26-267

Order: ~~X~~ *148*

Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Portland DSA

Phone: 408-685-1372

Email: janna.tessman@gmail.com

Contact information for authorized changes: Edward Kurtz

Phone: 336-995-2177

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Formatted Statement

Portland DSA Says Vote Yes on Measure 26-267

For a city budget that serves working-class needs, not ruling-class greed!

We are the Portland Chapter of Democratic Socialist of America (DSA) and we believe we must replace capitalism with democratic socialism, a system where workers control the fruits of their collective labor, where we care for each other, and where all people have a real voice and self-determination in their workplaces, neighborhoods, and governments.

Participatory budgeting was invented by Brazilian workers in the 1980s to give all residents a direct voice in municipal government. It was a huge success. It increased public infrastructure investment in poor and working-class neighborhoods and spread rapidly to other cities with similar effects. Brazilian cities that implemented participatory budgeting drew more residents into public decision-making, invested more in public health, and experienced significant decreases in infant mortality.

Measure 26-267 brings participatory budgeting to Portland at a meaningful scale. It will give all residents a direct say in how public funds are spent in their city. In the process, it can expand opportunities for residents and City workers to collaborate to solve problems, improve service delivery, and rebuild a strong public sector. At a time when the city is cutting city jobs to spend lavishly on Moda Center improvements that enrich a Texas billionaire, Measure 26-267 will allow Portlanders to fight back by funding parks maintenance, street repair crews, and Portland Street Response.

The corporate investor class and their agents hate the idea of all Portlanders having more say. That's why they are funding opposition to Measure 26-267. Let's send them packing and fight for a Portland where everyone counts.

Portland Democratic Socialists of America Urge a Yes Vote on Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents Portland.

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We, the three undersigned, are university professors of political science who have spent our careers researching participatory budgeting. We co-authored *Participatory Budgeting in Global Perspective* (2021), a book that summarizes research across six continents to document how different programs have produced different impacts and outcomes.

Based on global research, we believe Portland would be particularly well positioned to implement successful, high impact participatory budgeting under Measure 26-267 for at least three reasons:

1. **Measure 26-267 establishes charter-mandated PB but enables innovation.** Measure 26-267 is well crafted with a clear mandate for recurring participatory budgeting cycles shown to result in higher engagement but provides flexibility for public officials to refine and improve the program over time.
2. **Measure 26-267 allocates sufficient funds to make participatory budgeting meaningful and impactful.** Measure 26-267 establishes a citywide participatory budgeting program that allocates at least \$1 million per 100,000 residents, recognized best practice. Allocating sufficient funds through participatory budgeting is key to achieving high participation and other program goals.

3. **Measure 26-267 requires program evaluation and improvement over time.** Research demonstrates that setting clear participatory budgeting program goals and evaluating the participatory budgeting implementation promotes better outcomes over time. The measure provides a clear mandate to *"evaluate the PB program and recommend changes in the process"* specifically *"to improve desired impacts and outcomes and to increase participation of all residents."*

Many US municipalities allocate relatively low amounts of public money, lack robust systems of evaluation, and/or do not have legal provisions (charter mandates) to ensure long-term growth and success.

Many municipalities around the globe, in contrast, have strengthened democratic institutions and expanded inclusive governance with precisely the provisions in Measure 26-267. Our research suggests Portland voters have a unique opportunity to do the same for their city by adopting Measure 26-267 on November 3.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Wampler, Distinguished Professor, Boise State University

Michael Touchton, Independent Scholar & Researcher, PhD Political Science

Dr. Stephanie McNulty, Professor, Franklin and Marshall College

Measure Argument Filing Attestation

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/6/2026 7:45 PM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVF-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Amendment

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: 910

Contact Information

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Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

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Formatted Statement

YES on Measure 26-267

for the future of young people.

for the future of democracy

Our democracy is in crisis. Too many people, especially young people, lack the experience of exercising their collective power. Civic participation comes from habitual experience; it is like a muscle that, if developed early, promotes life-long participation and voting. That is a key reason we need participatory budgeting to rebuild and reimagine our democracy.

In 2023, young people led Oregon's first participatory budgeting process (PB), Youth Voice Youth Vote PB. Hundreds of young people ages 13-25 designed and implemented the process to decide how to spend \$500k to improve youth wellbeing in East Portland after

COVID 19. Over 1000 youth voted to select winning projects, including career fairs, youth mentorship programs, and culturally-responsive health resources. As two East Portland youth reflect:

"By allowing young people to have a direct voice through participatory budgeting, they gain the experience and the confidence to advocate for themselves and our collective future."

- Jessica Monje-Perez

"The experience of participatory budgeting helped me see my own power to shape outcomes and improve in my community. It inspired me to take greater leadership and responsibility in my family and civic life."

- Natan Hagdu

Young people have the greatest stake in the future and the least voice in government decisions — the City Council's budget decisions directly affect them but they have no vote and little influence. Sharing real power with young people and other marginalized voices through participatory budgeting will foster greater collaboration across generations and bring forth creative solutions not typically considered in a city budget process dominated by the most affluent and able. In the face of rising authoritarianism, deeper participation in local government is critical. **Measure 26-267 will give all Portlanders, especially young people, more voice in their City budget and rebuild a democracy in which everybody counts.**

Next Up Action Fund

Measure Argument Filing Attestation

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/8/2026 1:10 PM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVP-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Original

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: ~~XX~~ 11

Contact Information

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Formatted Statement

Parent and ex-New Yorker's 2 cents on Measure 26-267 - Portland now is your chance!

I am a parent and ex-New Yorker who resides in SE Portland with my family. In 2017, I served as a participatory budgeting delegate in New York City's District 39 and experienced it first-hand. I strongly urge a yes vote on Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents PDX, to finally bring participatory budgeting to Portland.

Since 2011 when District 39 pioneered participatory budgeting, it has expanded across dozens of NYC Districts. Today, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers annually vote to allocate millions to public projects across the City: school programs, public art, rental assistance, or capital improvements to fire stations, streets, parks, transportation, and more. The voting occurs over two months, is City administered, and secured to verify residency but still open and accessible to all New York residents, including youth!

Participatory budgeting brings people from all walks of life to more deeply and meaningfully shape budget outcomes and improve their city. Participatory budgeting fosters community buy-in, strips away red tape, and delivers public works more quickly and with fewer complaints. It has been so successful in New York that 66% of voters chose to put it in the city charter in 2018.

After years of community advocacy and of City inaction, Portland finally has a chance with Measure 26-267.

Measure 26-267 builds on successes in places like Chicago, New York, and elsewhere and sets Portland up for success. Input from City staff with the Auditor, Office of Management & Budget, and the Government Transition Team ensures Measure 26-267 fits hand-in-glove with the new government structure, allowing residents to propose and select feasible City projects in their new City Council Districts.

For too long City Hall power brokers thwarted bringing participatory budgeting to Portland. Don't miss your chance! Vote yes on Measure 26-267 for Your 2 Cents!

Chanda Evans, SE Portland

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/7/2026 7:59 AM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet

Measure Argument

JCVP-03

ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Original

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: ~~10~~ 12

Contact Information

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Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Phone: 336-995-2177

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Formatted Statement

My name is Jamey Evenstar, a former Strategic Projects Analyst on Portland's Government Transition Team. I helped transition the City to the new voter-approved structure in 2023-2024.

I offer this statement to urge voters to adopt Measure 26-267 and to tell you the City of Portland absolutely can successfully launch a new participatory budgeting program at this time for at least four reasons:

1. **Plenty of Time for Program Development:** We restructured our entire form of government in 18 months. Measure 26-267 provides over 20 months to stand up one single program. Boston implemented its charter-mandated participatory budgeting in less time.
1. **Fits New Structure of Government:** Measure 26-267 aligns and supports ongoing charter reform. It would implement participatory budgeting in the new City Council Districts so residents and City staff can work together in their neighborhoods to directly determine how to spend city funds.

1. **Not Re-Inventing the Wheel:** As a late adopter, Portland can learn from over 7000 cities already implementing participatory budgeting across the world and the US, including Seattle, Chicago, St. Louis, and NYC. Metro, our regional government, has even implemented two cycles of participatory budgeting already so Portland can learn from this sister-government right here in Portland.

1. **Unfinished Work of Charter Reform:** Portland's transition to a new form of government requires overhauling old systems. This measure would provide the incentive the administration needs to finally modernize how budgets are created, tracked, and shared to make it more transparent and accessible for everyone.

As a policy director in council office from 2017 to 2021, I crafted participatory budgeting legislation that was eventually blocked by the mayor. Measure 26-67 is a clear but flexible charter amendment to successfully establish participatory budgeting in Portland. Putting participatory budgeting in the charter will protect from the political interference of politicians that has stymied past legislative efforts to bring participatory budgeting to Portland.

We got this! Vote yes on Measure 26-267

Jamey Evenstar, Downtown Portland

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/7/2026 8:07 AM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVP-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Original

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: ~~12~~ ~~14~~ 13

Contact Information

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This information furnished by: Edward Kurtz

Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Phone: 336-995-2177

Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

Formatted Statement

Housing Advocacy Organizations Support Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents for Portland

Portland needs all voices engaged in solving its most pressing challenges. We need to have those most impacted directly involved in crafting real solutions to the housing crisis.

That's why we need Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents PDX, to finally bring participatory budgeting to Portland.

Measure 26-267 will put all Portlanders, including our unhoused neighbors, in the driver seat of proposing, developing and selecting real solutions to the housing crisis and sending a strong message that housing and homelessness is a leading budget priority for Portlanders.

In cities across the US that implement participatory budgeting, housing and homeless services are routinely among the winning projects. Examples include:

Public Housing Renovations, NYC District 3, 2017. \$500,000 to restore walkways, tenant garden spaces and outdoor common areas in a public housing facility.

Laundry Access & Hygiene in Schools, Cambridge, MA, 2019. \$50,000 to install laundry facilities in public schools to support unhoused students.

Affordable Housing Resources, Rochester, NY 2019. \$100,000 for an emergency housing fund and a tiny house pilot project.

Youth Affordable Housing Support, Grand Rapids, MI, 2023. \$145,000 to house and support youth transitioning out of foster care and facing housing instability or homelessness.

Rental Assistance, Evanston, IL, 2023. \$810,000 for rental assistance for low-income renters.

Homeowner Stabilization, Seattle, WA 2023. \$3 million for homeowner stabilization services in communities at high risk of displacement.

Mental Health Crisis Response, Seattle, WA 2023. \$2 million to expand the qualified mental and behavioral health specialists as first responders (similar to Portland Street Response).

Vote 'Yes' on the Ballot Measure 26-267 to guarantee that every Portlander, regardless of housing status, has a voice in shaping our city's future.

We the undersigned urge Portlanders to vote YES for Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents PDX.

Molly Hogan, Welcome Home Coalition

Nicole Dardinger, Sisters of the Road

Sandra Comstock, Hygiene4All

Rose CDC

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/7/2026 8:14 AM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVP-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Original

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: ~~13~~ 1214

Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Community Budgeting for All PAC

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This information furnished by: Edward Kurtz

Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Phone: 336-995-2177

Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

Formatted Statement

Measure 26-267 gives you Your Two Cents in shaping your City budget!

Portland faces a crisis in public trust over spending or misspending of public money. We can't solve this problem with new leaders alone. Restoring trust and fostering trustworthy government requires bottom up reform. It requires more deeply and meaningfully engaging all Portlanders in the city budgeting process.

Fortunately there is a proven reform already practiced worldwide: participatory budgeting. Measure 26-267 will establish a recurring participatory budgeting process wherein all residents can gather in their new City Council districts, work with staff to develop feasible city projects, and vote to decide which projects the City funds and implements.

When people see the government implementing their decisions through participatory budgeting, more and more people participate. Thousands more than traditional city budgeting processes dominated by lobbyists and insiders. Participatory budgeting takes public budgeting out into the community where many more voices are heard.

In 2023, almost 140,000 cast votes for winning projects in New York's charter-mandated citywide participatory budgeting, on top of 76,000 who participated in District-level processes. New Yorkers have allocated over \$311 million this way since 2012. Last year in Paris, where participatory budgeting started in 2014, 162,000 residents decided how to spend €81.8 million (\$94.75 million) on public works projects across the city.

Successful implementation in New York and Paris has resulted from allocating meaningful amounts of money and establishing the policy in city charters. This ensures participatory budgeting can develop and grow free of short-term political interference. Participatory budgeting is fundamentally about the distribution of power; it belongs in city charters.

The impacts of participatory budgeting far exceed that of traditional civic engagement programs that merely ask for people's "input" because it shares real power. Measure 26-267 will put Portlanders in the driver seat in solving problems and seizing opportunities in their neighborhoods and communities.

Jim Labbe, Executive Director
Carmen Denison, Communications & Policy Director
Participatory Budgeting Oregon

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/7/2026 8:25 AM



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVP-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/3/26

This Filing is an: Original

Argument in Favor

Measure #: 26-267

Order: ~~12~~ 13 15

Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Community Budgeting for All PAC

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Phone: 336-995-2177

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This information furnished by: Edward Alexander Kurtz

Organization Name: Yes on Your 2 Cents PDX

Phone: 336-995-2177

Email: eddie@skyridgestrategies.com

Formatted Statement

**We Shared Real Power with Our Constituents through
Participatory Budgeting and Would Do it Again!**

We are your Oregon Metro Councilors. In 2019 Portland voters approved a bond measure to protect clean water, healthy habitat, and access to nature. The Metro Council included measure provisions allowing for participatory budgeting so residents could directly decide how to spend a portion of bond funds.

This led to Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods Community Choice Grants Program that used participatory budgeting, the same process proposed by Your Two Cents campaign for the city of Portland through Measure 26-267

In 2023-24 Metro launched the first cycle in District 4 (Hillsboro-area) to allocate \$2 million. With staff support, residents developed and selected 22 projects including \$75,562 in natural feature

enhancements at Hillsboro's Hamby Park, \$198,250 for a new "pocket forest" and walking path at Cornelius's Tarrybrooke Park, and \$201,500 to restore wetlands at Forest Grove's Kyle Park.

In 2025-26 we completed our second cycle. Residents developed and selected \$3 million for parks and nature projects District 2 (Milwaukie-Gladstone-Oregon City). Residents voted to fund 23 out of 170 projects. Winning projects included \$119,083 for stream and garden improvements End of the Oregon Trail Park, \$160,000 for Clackamas river access, and \$166,000 for a small skate park and habitat improvements at Milwaukie's Water Tower Park.

Participatory budgeting democratizes decision-making allowing all residents the opportunity to directly determine real-world outcomes in their neighborhoods and communities.

Measure 26-267, Your 2 Cents PDX, would bring this process to the City of Portland and help rebuild trust and accountability over the city budget. Take it from us, elected officials who have implemented participatory budgeting programs in our region. Participatory budgeting works! We urge a Yes vote on Measure 26-267.

Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Metro Council President
Christine Lewis, Metro Councilor District 2
Duncan Hwang, Metro Councilor District 6
Ashton Simpson, Metro Councilor District 1
Mary Nolan, Metro Councilor District 5

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Signature: Edward Kurtz

Date Signed(or amended): 9/8/2026 3:43 PM