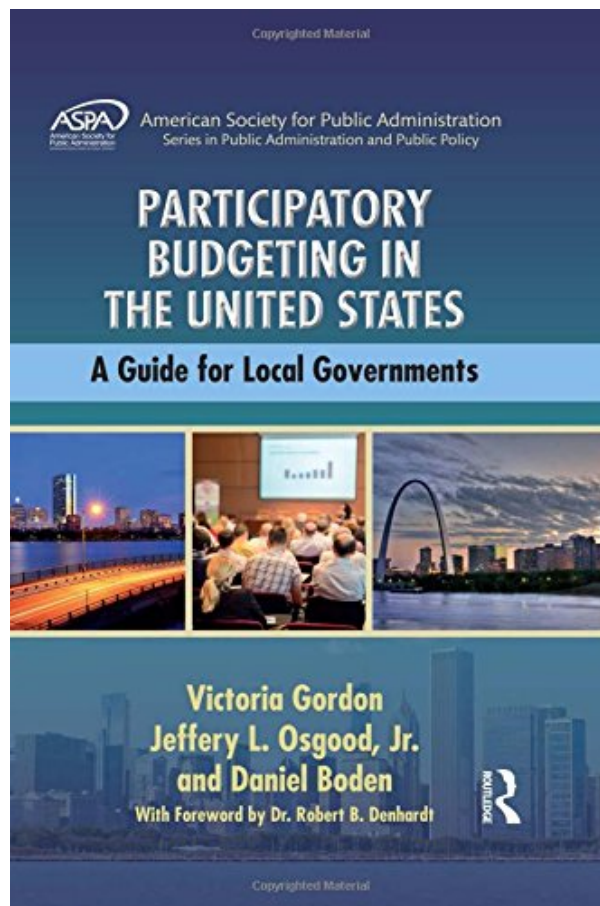


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# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN THE UNITED STATES

## A Guide for Local Governments



Victoria Gordon  
Jeffery L. Osgood, Jr.  
and Daniel Boden

With Foreword by Dr. Robert B. Denhardt



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## Review

"Participatory budgeting offers citizens a greater voice in the allocation of resources, but public managers are often skeptical of public involvement in financial decision-making. Participatory Budgeting in the United States helps abate these concerns by offering scholars and practitioners of public administration an explanation of how the method is working in a handful of local governments throughout the nation." –William Hatcher, Augusta University, USA

"This book is a welcome addition to the field of public administration due to the practical approach the authors take in examining citizen participation in the budgeting process, which graduate students will find insightful. The work also emphasizes the importance of public budgeting theories and practices in an evolving system of governance, where citizen input and representation are more than merely democratic principles, but essential elements of good governance." –Beth M. Rauhaus, University of North Georgia, USA

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Although citizen engagement is a core public service value, few public administrators receive training on how to share leadership with people outside the government. *Participatory Budgeting in the United States* serves as a primer for those looking to understand a classic example of participatory governance, engaging local citizens in examining budgetary constraints and priorities before making recommendations to local government. Utilizing case studies and an original set of interviews with community members, elected officials, and city employees, this book provides a rare window onto the participatory budgeting process through the words and experiences of the very individuals involved. The central themes that emerge from these fascinating and detailed cases focus on three core areas: creating the participatory budgeting infrastructure; increasing citizen participation in participatory budgeting; and assessing and increasing the impact of participatory budgeting. This book provides students, local government elected officials, practitioners, and citizens with a comprehensive understanding of participatory budgeting and straightforward guidelines to enhance the process of civic engagement and democratic values in local communities.

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