

## Initiative Measure to be Submitted Directly to the Voters

The city attorney has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

**A Proposed Amendment to the Oakland City Charter to Create a Process by which the City's Budget Allocations for Departments, Agencies, Programs and Services would be determined by a Vote of Eligible Oakland Residents**

The proposed measure would amend the City Charter to create a system and process, referred to as the "Democratic Budgeting Program," by which certain Oakland residents ("Eligible Budget Voters"), as defined in the measure, would cast votes that would allocate funds in the City of Oakland's budget. For City general purpose funds, Eligible Budget Voters would vote on what percentage of the general purpose funds would be allocated to each City agency and department. The results would be tabulated based on an average of all voters' allocations. For City special purpose funds, eligible voters would choose between two allocation packages, one recommended by the Congress of Directors, with the membership described below, and one recommended by the City Council. The results would be tabulated based on an average determined by the proportion of votes for each package. Eligible Budget Voters are Oakland residents aged 16 years or older who have attended at least one Neighborhood Assembly meeting in the prior 12 months. The proposed measure would create three new types of public bodies as part of the Democratic Budgeting Program: (1) Neighborhood Assemblies, (2) Citywide Committees, and (3) a Congress of Directors. A Neighborhood Assembly is defined as a neighborhood-based body for sharing information, collective conversation, and decision-making corresponding to a geographic area with 2,500 to 5,000 residents. Neighborhood Assemblies would elect three to five directors to administer the assemblies. The Neighborhood Assemblies would hold at least 10 meetings per year, and would make budget allocation proposals to the Citywide Committees based on votes of eligible voters. Citywide Committees would include delegates from each Neighborhood Assembly and City agencies or departments, and would focus on specific agencies/departments of the City or on specific subject matters. The purpose of the Citywide Committees would be to synthesize agency/department-specific program proposals from the Neighborhood Assemblies and make proposals regarding the use of special purpose funds. The Congress of Directors would be comprised of all Neighborhood Assembly directors, and would act as the executive board of the Democratic Budgeting Program and oversee program personnel, the program funds, and the City budget vote. The proposed measure mandates that the City budget would allocate \$4.1 million to pay for the Democratic Budgeting Program for the first five years. The measure provides for the hiring of coordinators and organizers to operate the program.

Petition for Submission to Voters of Proposed Amendment to the Charter of the City Oakland

To the city council of the City Oakland:

We, the undersigned, registered and qualified voters of the State of California, residents of the City of Oakland, pursuant to Section 3 of Article XI of the California Constitution and Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 34450) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 4 of the Government Code, present to the city council of Oakland this petition and request that the following proposed amendment to the charter of Oakland be submitted to the registered and qualified voters of Oakland for their adoption or rejection at the next statewide general, statewide primary, or regularly scheduled municipal election date pursuant to Section 1200, 1201, or 1301. The proposed charter amendment reads as follows:

**Title of Proposed Measure: AN AMENDMENT TO THE OAKLAND CITY CHARTER REQUIRING IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A DEMOCRATIC BUDGETING PROGRAM.**

**Democratic Budgeting Program.**

The Democratic Budgeting Program promotes active citizenship, community learning, and direct democracy by providing the residents of Oakland a governing process that allows residents to collectively determine how the budget of the City of Oakland is allocated through participation in the Neighborhood Assemblies and Citywide Committees designated herein.

Article VIII, Section 801 of the Oakland City Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Section 801. Budget**

Each department, office and agency of the City shall provide to Democratic Budgeting Program personnel, officers, and Neighborhood Assemblies in the form and at the time directed by the Mayor and City Administrator all information required by

them to develop a budget conforming to modern budget practices and procedures as well as specific information which may be prescribed by the Council. Under the direction of the Mayor and Council, the City Administrator shall prepare budget recommendations for the next succeeding fiscal year which the Mayor shall present to the Council, in a form and manner and at a time as the Council may prescribe by resolution. Following public budget hearings, including a public vote on budget recommendations, conducted pursuant to sections 813-823. ~~the Council shall adopt by resolution a budget of proposed expenditures and appropriations necessary therefor conforming with the results of the vote in section 822 for the ensuing years indicated therein,~~ failing which the appropriations for current operations of the last fiscal year shall be deemed effective until the new budget and appropriation measures are adopted. All City departments, offices, and agencies shall enact the program and policy-related results of the vote in section 822.

Article VIII of the Oakland City Charter is hereby amended to add Sections 813-823:

**Section 813. Severability**

If any provision of this measure or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid or unenforceable, it shall not affect other provisions or applications of the measure that can be given effect without the invalid or unenforceable provision or application, and to this end the provisions of Sections 801 and 813-823 are severable.

**Section 814. Democratic Budgeting Program**

Sections 813-823 of this measure establishes the Democratic Budgeting Program. The Democratic Budgeting Program shall be a City department on the same organizational level as City Attorney, Mayor, City Council, and City Auditor. Residents of Oakland shall determine how the City's budget is allocated through a direct vote at Neighborhood Assemblies.

**Section 815. Definitions**

A. Ballot: The Ballot will allow voters to vote on funding allocations for each

agency/department, proposals for the use of funds previously allocated, and amendments to the Democratic Budgeting Program (see definition below) submitted by the Congress of Directors (see definition below).

B. Citywide Committees: Bodies composed of delegates from multiple Neighborhood Assemblies (see definition below), focused on particular agencies/departments or areas of expertise. They may include representatives from the particular City agency/department. Citywide Committees receive proposals from Neighborhood Assemblies and synthesize program recommendations for their particular agency/department. They also make proposals for the use of special funds targeting specific agencies/departments.

C. Congress of Directors: The executive board of the Democratic Budgeting Program (see definition below), comprised of all Directors (see definition below).

D. Coordinators: Full-time staff for the Democratic Budgeting Program who support and promote the Program citywide.

E. Campaign Coalition: A temporary body of organizational representatives and community leaders who initiated the campaign to create the Democratic Budgeting Program. This Coalition facilitates initial implementation of this Program.

F. Democratic Budgeting Program: The City department created by this initiative that implements key aspects of Oakland's budgeting process and facilitates civic engagement, dialogue, and participatory decision-making among the residents of Oakland.

G. Democratic Budgeting Program Fund: The annual budget for the Democratic Budgeting Program.

H. Directors: Elected Eligible Voters (see definition below) responsible for organizing, facilitating and providing leadership to a Neighborhood Assembly. Directors must reside within the boundaries of the Neighborhood Assembly where they are elected.

I. District Launch Assembly: A convening in each City Council District to implement the first stages of the Democratic Budgeting Program.

J. Effective Date: Date when the measure is passed into law.

K. Eligible Budget Voter: Eligible Voters who have attended at least one Neighborhood Assembly meeting during the last twelve (12) months. Eligible Budget Voters may participate in the City Budget Vote (see Section 822).

**Table 1**

Item	Percentage of total Democratic Budgeting Program Fund
Salaries and benefits <sup>1</sup>	32%
Neighborhood Assembly budgets	19%
Training and leadership development for Directors, Organizers, and Coordinators	8%
Office and administrative expenses, including rent and mailing	4%
City Budget Vote	37%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>1</sup>See Section 818 for initial salary and benefit levels

L. Eligible Voter: A resident of Oakland who is sixteen (16) years of age or older.

M. Neighborhood Assembly: A neighborhood-based body for the sharing of information, collective conversation, and decision-making, corresponding to a geographic area with 2,500 - 5,000 residents.

N. Neighborhood Assembly Area: The local geographic region corresponding to a given Neighborhood Assembly.

O. Neighborhood Launch Assembly: A convening in each Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) area to determine Neighborhood Assembly boundaries, elect Directors and implement the first stages of the Democratic Budgeting Program.

P. Organizers: Personnel for the Democratic Budgeting Program, with special focus on outreach and supporting the Neighborhood Assemblies.

**Section 816. The Democratic Budgeting Program Fund**

All Democratic Budgeting Program Fund values correspond to 2015 dollars and shall be annually adjusted for inflation.

*(1) Initial Funding*

For the first five (5) years following Effective Date, the Democratic Budgeting Program Fund shall be \$4.1 million. During this period, the Congress of Directors may adjust the initial line items and funding levels shown in Table 1, so long as the total amount does not exceed the total Fund amount. After five years, the Democratic Budgeting Program Fund shall be allocated pursuant to Sections 817-823.

*(2) City Budget Vote*

Sufficient funds to hold a standalone City election, as calculated by county election officials, for a number of voters not less than the number of voters who voted for a Mayoral candidate in the most recent Oakland mayoral election, shall be set aside for the purposes of holding the City Budget Vote.

**Section 817. Formation of the Democratic Budgeting Program**

The formation of the Democratic Budgeting Program will follow the timeline outlined in Table 2. In the event of changes to City Council Districts, the same process shall be used, limited to the Districts and Neighborhood Assemblies affected by the changes.

*1) Public Notification*

The following minimum public notification practices must be followed in advance of the District Launch Assemblies and Neighborhood Launch Assemblies:  
 (a) Notice by mail to all Eligible Voters;  
 (b) Notice posted electronically, including via major City email lists and prominently on the main City website.

*(2) District Launch Assemblies*

Within fourteen (14) days after Effective Date, the City Clerk's office must notify all Oakland residents of District Launch Assemblies pursuant to Section 817.1, including a call for candidates for the Coordinator positions, and basic information about the Democratic Budgeting Program. The District Launch Assemblies must be held within sixty (60) days of passing the initiative. The City Clerk shall coordinate with the Democratic Budgeting Program Campaign Coalition and City agencies/departments (including but not limited to the City Department of Neighborhood Services) to delegate responsibilities for planning, facilitating, and securing locations for the District Launch Assemblies. Decision-making at District Launch Assemblies requires a quorum of seventy-five (75) Eligible Voters who reside in the district.

*(a) Election of Coordinators*

In the inaugural year, Coordinators for each City Council District shall be chosen by a majority vote of Eligible Voters present at the District Launch Assemblies, who reside in the pertinent district. Interested parties must submit their petition for candidacy no later than three (3) weeks after notification of the

**Table 2**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Effective Date	Not applicable
Notification of District Launch Assemblies and solicitation of candidates for Coordinator positions	Within <b>fourteen (14) days</b> after Effective Date
Petitions of candidacy for Coordinator positions due	Within <b>twenty-one (21) days</b> after Notification of District Launch Assemblies and before District Launch Assemblies
District Launch Assemblies held	Within <b>sixty (60) days</b> after Effective Date
Solicitation of applicants for Organizer positions and candidates for Director positions	Within <b>sixty (60) days</b> after Effective Date
Organizers hired	Within <b>thirty (30) days</b> after District Launch Assemblies and before Neighborhood Launch Assemblies
Notification of Neighborhood Launch Assemblies	Within <b>twenty-eight (28) days</b> after District Launch Assemblies
Petitions of candidacy for Director positions due	Within <b>twenty-one (21) days</b> after Notification of Neighborhood Launch Assemblies and before Neighborhood Launch Assemblies
Neighborhood Launch Assemblies held	Within <b>fourty-nine (49) days</b> after District Launch Assemblies in corresponding City Council Districts

District Launch Assemblies, accompanied by thirty (30) signatures from Eligible Voters in their City Council District. Votes are cast at the District Launch Assemblies in a manner determined and facilitated by the Democratic Budgeting Program Campaign Coalition. Subsequent hiring decisions shall be made pursuant to Section 819; see Section 818.2 for a full description of the Coordinator position.

*(c) Hiring of Organizers*

Coordinators shall solicit applicants for the Organizer positions at the District Launch Assemblies. Coordinators shall hire Organizers within one (1) month of the District Launch Assemblies. Subsequent hiring decisions shall be made pursuant to Section 819; see Section 818.3 for a full description of the Organizer position.

*(d) Deadlines and Consequences*

If notification deadlines described in this section are not met, each member of City Council shall be docked in daily pay for each day of delay. These funds will be transferred to the Democratic Budgeting Program Fund.

*(3) Neighborhood Launch Assemblies*

Within four (4) weeks after the District Launch Assemblies, the City Clerk’s office must notify all residents of Oakland of Neighborhood Launch Assemblies, to be held in each NCPC area. Notification will include NCPC assignments and a call for candidates for Director positions. Organizers shall assist in informing residents. Neighborhood Launch Assemblies must be held within seven weeks of the District Launch Assembly in the

corresponding City Council District. Coordinators will work with the appropriate City offices and the Democratic Budgeting Program Campaign Coalition to plan the Neighborhood Launch Assemblies. For decisions to occur, a quorum of seventy-five (75) Eligible Voters who reside in the given NCPC area must be in attendance.

*(a) Determination of Neighborhood Assembly Boundaries*

Each Neighborhood Launch Assembly will receive a map of their NCPC area. Democratic Budgeting Program personnel will determine and facilitate a process by which Eligible Voters will divide their NCPC area into Neighborhood Assembly Areas of 2,500-5000 people each. The final Neighborhood Assembly boundaries must be decided by majority vote of attending Eligible Voters who are residents of the NCPC area.

*(b) Inaugural Election of Directors*

Within two (2) weeks after notification of the Neighborhood Launch Assembly, interested parties must submit their petition for candidacy including twenty (20) signatures from Eligible Voters in their NCPC area. Initially, the Directors for each Neighborhood Assembly will be chosen as follows: candidates who receive the first and second most votes will be appointed for a three year term; candidates who receive the third, fourth, and fifth most votes will be appointed for a two-year term. Subsequent elections shall take place pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 821.5.a.

**Section 818. Personnel for Democratic Budgeting Program**

Democratic Budgeting Program personnel are City staff and entitled to all the rights and responsibilities appertaining thereto. Classifications for the personnel positions set forth in Section 818 shall be created as expeditiously as possible; in lieu of a new classification, the closest existing job classification(s) may be used temporarily until the actual classification is created, and City staff shall work expeditiously to recruit and fill positions, so as not to impede the effective and timely implementation of Sections 813-823.

*(1) Salaries and benefits*

The City shall make appropriate changes to its labor contracts to incorporate the new positions. The employment requirements stated here shall remain in effect until the City has done so.

*2) Coordinators*

One Coordinator shall be hired per City Council District. At the time of hire, Coordinators must have been residents of the district in which they are hired for a minimum of thirty (30) days. Coordinators shall promote the Democratic Budgeting Program to the public, serve as liaisons between Neighborhood Assemblies and City officials, hire and oversee the work of Organizers, support the Directors, administer Neighborhood Assembly Budgets to Directors within their district, and ensure that educational and informational materials are appropriately and sufficiently prepared for Neighborhood Assemblies.

*(3) Organizers*

Organizers support the Neighborhood Assemblies within their district by performing outreach within their district, with a special emphasis on Neighborhood Assembly Areas with lower rates of participation. In the inaugural year, Coordinators shall hire three (3) Organizers per City Council District. In subsequent years, hiring decisions are made by the Congress of Directors pursuant to Section 819. Organizers are hired for year-long contracts. At the time of hire, Organizers must have been residents of the district in which they are hired for a minimum of thirty (30) days. Organizers may be deployed outside their district. Organizers' contracts are automatically renewed unless, at a year-end review, the Congress of Directors recommends against rehiring. In such cases, Organizers must reapply for the position.

**Section 819. Congress of Directors**

The executive of the Democratic Budgeting Program is the Congress of Directors. The Congress of Directors is made up of all Neighborhood Assembly Directors. It will meet at least twice a year. All Directors must attend or send an alternate. Meetings will be

**Table 3**

Position	Annual Salary (equiv.)	Annual Benefits	FTE (%)
Coordinators	\$48,000 - \$63,360	equivalent to \$25,000	100%
Organizers	\$24,000 - \$31,740	equivalent to \$12,000	50%

open to the public.

*(1) Function*

The Congress of Directors’ functions include: 1) overseeing personnel; 2) overseeing the Democratic Budgeting Program Fund; 3) making as indicated herein certain minor adjustments in the functioning of the Democratic Budgeting Program; 4) receiving, compiling, and preparing for citywide vote proposals from Neighborhood Assemblies that involve substantive changes in the functioning of the Democratic Budgeting Program; 5) overseeing the City Budget Vote; and 6) facilitating the exchange of information between City agencies/departments and the Neighborhood Assemblies. The Congress of Directors may form committees to perform these functions. Such committees shall be created pursuant to the decision-making process in Section 819.2.

*(2) Congress of Directors Decision-making*

The Congress of Directors will make decisions based upon majority rule, save for decisions for which a different process is specified herein. For specific decisions, the Congress of Directors may adopt a decision process with a higher threshold for agreement than majority rule. A simple majority of Directors must be present for quorum.

*(3) Amending the Democratic Budgeting Program*

Unless specifically stated, any minor changes in the Democratic Budgeting Program may be decided by the Congress of Directors. More substantive changes which require a citywide vote work just like agency/department-specific proposals, except that such proposals go to the Congress of Directors instead of to a Citywide Committee. These items are included in the City Budget Vote.

**Section 820. Citywide Committees**

The purpose of Citywide Committees is to receive and synthesize agency/department-specific program proposals from Neighborhood Assemblies and to make proposals regarding the use of special (i.e. non-general) funds. The Citywide Committees will make monthly reports to the Neighborhood Assemblies.

*(1) Formation*

The Citywide Committee for a given agency/department is established once one of the following occurs: 1) at least one (1) Neighborhood Assembly in each City Council District approves a proposal specifically focused on that agency/department, or 2) a set of Directors that includes at least one (1)

Director from each City Council District calls for the formation of such a Citywide Committee.

*(2) Composition and Meetings*

Citywide Committees are comprised of up to one (1) delegate elected by each Neighborhood Assembly, and zero (0) or more delegates from the appropriate City agency/department. At most one-third (1/3) of all delegates for each Citywide Committee can be delegates from the corresponding City agency/department. Once elected, delegates to a Citywide Committee from Neighborhood Assemblies serve two-year terms. Elected Citywide Committee delegates can serve a maximum of four (4) consecutive terms. Quorum consists of at least seven (7) delegates from Neighborhood Assemblies. A Citywide Committee votes according to majority rule, until and unless it decides to change its voting procedure to require a higher threshold of agreement. Citywide Committees meet at least once every two (2) months. Their meetings are public. The work of the Citywide Committees is supported by Democratic Budgeting Program personnel. The City shall make space available for the meetings of the Citywide Committees. Agencies/departments must share with the Citywide Committees any and all information pertaining to the development and implementation of the budget that they currently share with the Mayor, City Administrator, and City Council.

*(3) Agency/Department-Specific Program Proposals*

Throughout the year, a Citywide Committee receives proposals from Neighborhood Assemblies regarding the budget for its particular agency/department. Neighborhood Assemblies may submit proposals on matters relating to the budget of a specific agency/department to the appropriate Citywide Committee. The Citywide Committee shall review the proposals it receives, then select from and synthesize those proposals into a single agency/department-specific proposal to be submitted to the Congress of Directors along with any explanatory materials. The Congress of Directors will submit all such Citywide Committee proposals to vote at the yearly City Budget Vote. All agencies/departments are encouraged to collaborate with the Citywide Committees and may develop joint budget and/or program proposals to be voted upon in the manner below.

*(4) Special Funds Proposals*

The Citywide Committee makes recommendations to the Congress of Directors regarding the use of special funds for their

agency/department. The Congress of Directors receives all such proposals from the Citywide Committees and synthesizes them into a package to be voted on at the yearly City Budget Vote. See Section 822.

**Section 821. Neighborhood Assemblies**

*(1) Size*

Neighborhood Assembly boundaries will be based on the NCPC areas as of June 2013. Each NCPC area will initially be subdivided into Neighborhood Assembly Areas of 2,500-5,000 people. The subdivision boundaries will be determined by Neighborhood Launch Assemblies in each NCPC area (see above). The Congress of Directors may propose changes to Neighborhood Assembly boundaries and minimum/maximum population thresholds for Neighborhood Assemblies. Proposals will be voted on at the Neighborhood Assemblies during the annual City Budget Vote described below.

*(2) Meetings*

Neighborhood Assemblies will hold meetings at least ten (10) times per year during ten (10) different months. The first Neighborhood Assembly meetings shall be held within one (1) month of the Neighborhood Launch Assemblies. The meetings shall be open to the public.

*(3) Public Notification*

All Eligible Voters shall be notified of the Neighborhood Assembly meetings in their Neighborhood Assembly Area in a manner determined by the Congress of Directors.

*(4) Neighborhood Assembly Decision-Making Process*

Although the meetings are open to the public, only Eligible Voters who reside within the Neighborhood Assembly Area are eligible to vote in that Neighborhood Assembly’s decisions. The City Budget Vote does not count as a Neighborhood Assembly decision, since it is a citywide vote.

A quorum of thirty (30) such Eligible Voters who are present at the beginning of the meeting is required for decision making in a Neighborhood Assembly. Neighborhood Assemblies will make decisions based upon a majority vote. This process is amendable by the Neighborhood Assembly, as long as a quorum thirty (30) Eligible Voters who reside within the Neighborhood Assembly Area are present for such a vote.

*(5) Directors*

*(a) Election of Directors*

Each Neighborhood Assembly will have

between three (3) and five (5) elected Directors to collaboratively administer the Neighborhood Assembly. In all subsequent elections after the inaugural year, all Directors shall be limited to serving two-year terms and are eligible to serve multiple, non-consecutive terms. Individuals interested in serving as Directors must first gather twenty (20) signatures from Eligible Voters who live within the Neighborhood Assembly Area supporting their nomination. Each Neighborhood Assembly will elect new Directors prior to the end of an exiting Director's term.

*(b) Duties*

Directors are responsible for preparing, publicizing, and facilitating the Neighborhood Assembly meetings. Facilitation of meetings includes, inter alia, taking roll of meeting participants. Directors may delegate these tasks as needed. Directors also serve as stewards of the operating budget of their Neighborhood Assembly as described in Section 812.6.

*(c) Training and Leadership Development*

The training and leadership development opportunities provided to Directors shall focus on leadership skills and local knowledge. Leadership skills include, inter alia, facilitation and group decision-making, management, organization, and communication and outreach skills. Local knowledge includes, inter alia, increasing understanding of current and historical cultural and economic trends in Oakland, the functioning of City agencies/departments, and issues impacting Oakland's budget.

*(d) Recall*

If a Director is determined to be unable or unwilling to fulfill their duties by a three-fourths (3/4) supermajority vote of the Congress of Directors, then that Director shall be stripped of their role, allowing their Neighborhood Assembly to elect a new Director to serve in their stead for the remainder of their term.

*(6) Neighborhood Assembly Budget*

Each Neighborhood Assembly is allocated a minimum of \$7,560 per year (i.e. \$630 per month) for meeting supplies and outreach materials. All funds not spent by the end of the fiscal year will be transferred back to the Democratic Budgeting Program Fund.

*(7) Meeting Location*

For each participating Neighborhood Assembly, the City of Oakland shall subsidize or make available, as needed, at least one (1) meeting space that can accommodate a minimum of fifty (50) people each month. To the greatest extent possible, this space must be within the given Neighborhood Assembly Area. Directors will work with City staff to identify and secure meeting locations.

**Section 822. City Budget Vote**

*(1) Eligibility and Quorum*

In order for a City Budget Vote to occur, the number of Eligible Budget Voters in each City Council District must be greater than or equal to 1% of the number of voters in that City Council District that cast a vote for a mayoral candidate in the most recent mayoral election. If this threshold is not met, the budget is decided by City Council.

*(2) Public Notification*

The following minimum public notification practices must be followed in advance of the City Budget Vote:

(a) Notice by mail to all Eligible Budget Voters at least two (2) weeks prior to the City Budget Vote.

(b) Notice posted electronically, including via major City email lists and prominently on the main City website and other appropriate mass electronic communications.

*(3) Ballot Distribution and Voting Procedure*

Voting on the budget is to occur during the first week of June. The timing of this period may be changed by the Congress of Directors, with a threshold of two-thirds (2/3) supermajority for the approval of such a change. Sample Ballots are to be distributed to all households with at least one (1) Eligible budget Voter, no later than two weeks prior to the City Budget Vote. During the allotted one-week period, each Neighborhood Assembly must convene a special meeting dedicated to the budget vote. Each Neighborhood Assembly meeting place shall serve as a polling place.

For the purpose of voting on the City budget, all Neighborhood Assemblies shall have access to sufficient voting equipment and resources at a similar level provided for other municipal elections.

*(4) Ballot Content*

The official Ballot shall be designed by the Congress of Directors, with support from Democratic Budgeting Program personnel and City election officials, and conform to appropriate standards set out in the California Elections Code. The Ballot shall include an explanation of the function of each agency/department being voted upon, prior year allocations for those agencies/departments, and recommendations from Citywide Committees and City Council. The Ballot will include sections pertaining to the allocation of General Funds and Special Funds and, as appropriate, a section on the programming of funds by City agencies/departments, as described below. The Ballot may also include amendments to the Democratic Budgeting Program by the Congress of Directors, if any are proposed.

*(a) General Funds Allocation*

The Eligible Voters will decide what percentage of the General Purpose Fund will be allocated to each City agency/department.

In order for this section of the ballot to be counted for a given voter, the percentages must add up to one-hundred percent. Voting equipment facilitating this validity check will be provided as needed.

The final result is the average of all the votes, with a blank vote counted as a vote to keep the amount the same as the prior year. The General Funds Allocation thus decided goes into effect in the second fiscal year thereafter.

*(b) Special Funds Allocation*

Voters will decide between up two (2) allocation packages (i.e. slates combining all City funds beside the General Purpose Fund): an allocation package recommended by the Congress of Directors (which synthesizes proposals from the Citywide Committees) and an allocation package--if recommended--by City Council.

The final result will be the average of the two (2) packages as determined by the proportion of votes for each. A vote for both is counted as half a vote for each, and a vote for neither is not counted. The Special Funds Allocation thus decided goes into effect in the second fiscal year thereafter.

*(c) Departmental Program Vote*

A third section of the Ballot will determine how the City agencies/departments are to use the previously allocated funds in the following fiscal year. Thus, while the Allocation Votes in Year 1 go into effect in Year 3, the Departmental Program Vote in Year 1 goes into effect in Year 2, based on funds allocated prior to the Year 1 vote. For each City agency/department, this section of the Ballot may include up to two (2) proposals: One from the corresponding Citywide Committee, and one from the City agency/department staff. If no Citywide Committee proposal is submitted, any agency/department staff proposal wins by default. In the event of a split (50/50) vote, the agency/department staff recommendation wins.

**Section 823. Transparency**

The same financial information provided to City Council and the Mayor for the proper allocation of the budget shall be extended to the Democratic Budgeting Program including, but not limited to, Democratic Budgeting Program personnel, officers, and Neighborhood Assemblies.

**Notice of Intent to Circulate Petition**

Notice is hereby given by the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the City of Oakland for the purpose of creating a more accountable and more participatory City government, and a more community-oriented civic culture.

Sincerely,  
Mandy Au Yeung  
Allee Rosenmayer  
Victoria Sepe

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: THIS PETITION MAY BE CIRCULATED BY A PAID SIGNATURE GATHERER OR A VOLUNTEER. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK.

This column for  
official use only

17.	Residence Print Name: _____ Address ONLY: _____ Signature: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____	
18.	Residence Print Name: _____ Address ONLY: _____ Signature: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____	
19.	Residence Print Name: _____ Address ONLY: _____ Signature: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____	
20.	Residence Print Name: _____ Address ONLY: _____ Signature: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____	
21.	Residence Print Name: _____ Address ONLY: _____ Signature: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____	
22.	Residence Print Name: _____ Address ONLY: _____ Signature: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____	

**DECLARATION OF CIRCULATOR** (To be completed in circulator's own hand after the above signatures have been obtained)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a voter or am qualified to register to vote in the City of Oakland, California.

(print name)

My residence address is \_\_\_\_\_ . I circulated this section of the petition and witnessed each of

(address, city, zip)

the appended signatures being written. Each signature on this petition is, to the best of my information and belief, the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be. All signatures on this document were obtained between the dates of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

(month, day, year)

(month, day, year)

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_, California. Signature of Circulator \_\_\_\_\_.

(month, day)

(year)

(place of signing)

(signature)

**Initiative Measure to be Submitted Directly to the Voters**

The city attorney has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

**A Proposed Amendment to the Oakland City Charter to Create a Process by which the City’s Budget Allocations for Departments, Agencies, Programs and Services would be determined by a Vote of Eligible Oakland Residents**

The proposed measure would amend the City Charter to create a system and process, referred to as the “Democratic Budgeting Program,” by which certain Oakland residents (“Eligible Budget Voters”), as defined in the measure, would cast votes that would allocate funds in the City of Oakland’s budget. For City general purpose funds, Eligible Budget Voters would vote on what percentage of the general purpose funds would be allocated to each City agency and department. The results would be tabulated based on an average of all voters’ allocations. For City special purpose funds, eligible voters would choose between two allocation packages, one recommended by the Congress of Directors, with the membership described below, and one recommended by the City Council. The results would be tabulated based on an average determined by the proportion of votes for each package. Eligible Budget Voters are Oakland residents aged 16 years or older who have attended at least one Neighborhood Assembly meeting in the prior 12 months. The proposed measure would create three new types of public bodies as part of the Democratic Budgeting Program: (1) Neighborhood Assemblies, (2) Citywide Committees, and (3) a Congress of Directors. A Neighborhood Assembly is defined as a neighborhood-based body for sharing information, collective conversation, and decision-making corresponding to a geographic area with 2,500 to 5,000 residents. Neighborhood Assemblies would elect three to five directors to administer the assemblies. The Neighborhood Assemblies would hold at least 10 meetings per year, and would make budget allocation proposals to the Citywide Committees based on votes of eligible voters. Citywide Committees would include delegates from each Neighborhood Assembly and City agencies or departments, and would focus on specific agencies/departments of the City or on specific subject matters. The purpose of the Citywide Committees would be to synthesize agency/department-specific program proposals from the Neighborhood Assemblies and make proposals regarding the use of special purpose funds. The Congress of Directors would be comprised of all Neighborhood Assembly directors, and would act as the executive board of the Democratic Budgeting Program and oversee program personnel, the program funds, and the City budget vote. The proposed measure mandates that the City budget would allocate \$4.1 million to pay for the Democratic Budgeting Program for the first five years. The measure provides for the hiring of coordinators and organizers to operate the program.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: THIS PETITION MAY BE CIRCULATED BY A PAID SIGNATURE GATHERER OR A VOLUNTEER. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK.

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9.	Residence	
Print Name: _____	Address ONLY: _____	
Signature: _____	City: _____	Zip: _____
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Signature: _____	City: _____	Zip: _____
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