



CONTRA COSTA
BUDGET JUSTICE

The Importance of Budget Advocacy In Contra Costa County & Why Your Voice Matters!


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Who we are

Our Mission

- *The Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition advocates for community engagement in the Contra Costa County budgeting process and for a set of values-based budgeting principles.*
- *We **educate, advocate** and **engage** with communities across Contra Costa County on budget issues.*
- *We are composed of 35 Member Organizations*



What is important
to you?



BJC's Goals for the County Budgeting Process



BJC's overarching goal is to continue to shift the budgeting culture in Contra Costa County from a deeply internalized and non-transparent process to one that is more democratic and inclusive, by urging the county to focus on an explicit set of values and priorities, especially regarding racial and social equity. These values would in turn provide a framework for developing innovative budget processes and priorities, based on deep and authentic community engagement.

The Budget is a **MORAL** document.

A set of values and principles that guide decision-making. A key to considering how those most impacted by the budget are affected by our choices.



Let's
Advocate
Together!!

ROLES

Public

Elects BoS/officials, pays taxes, approves funding measures

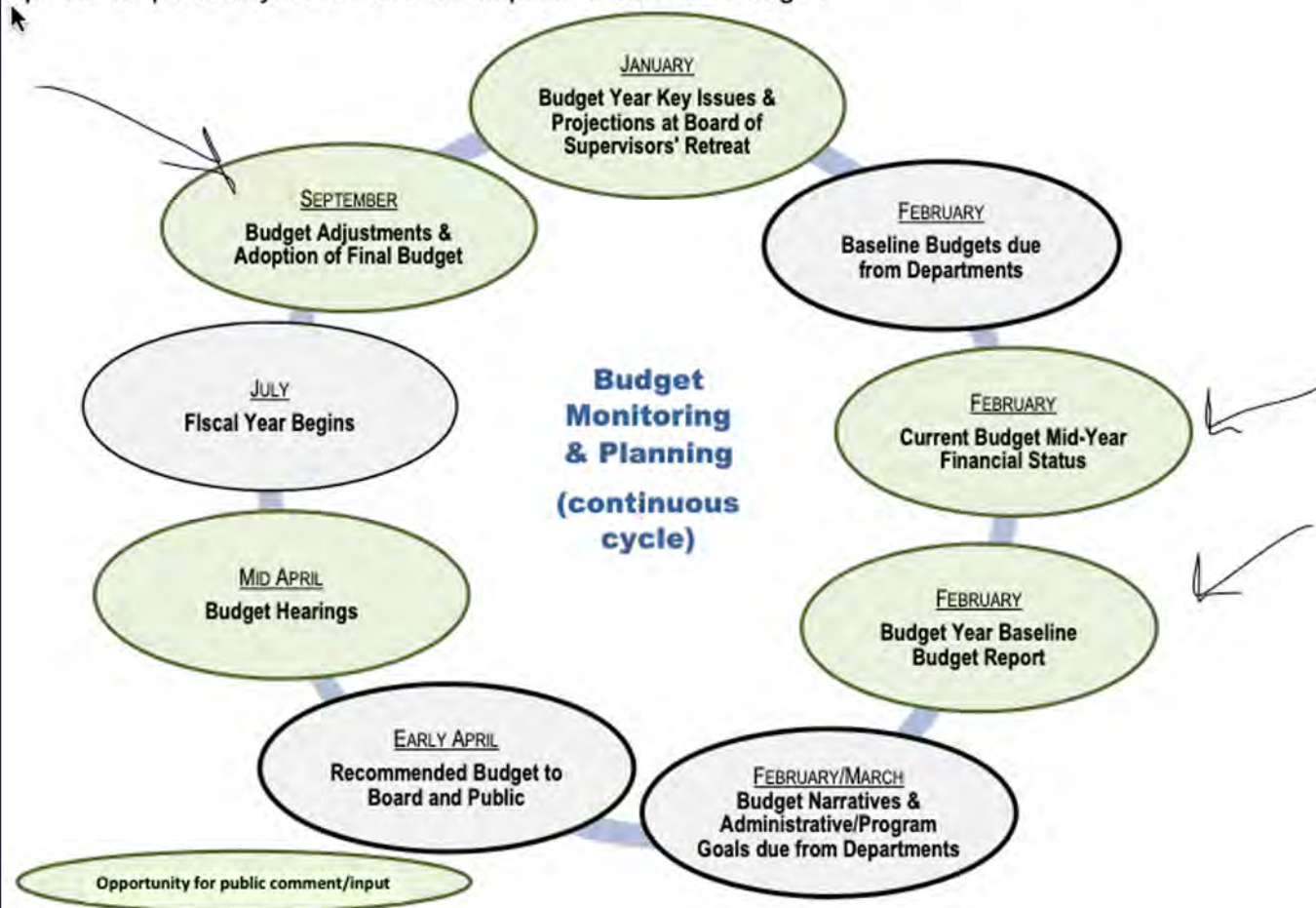
BOS: Sets vision/priorities, establishes financial policies, ensures resource alignment, and adopts the budget

County Administrator: Prepares annual budget for BOS approval

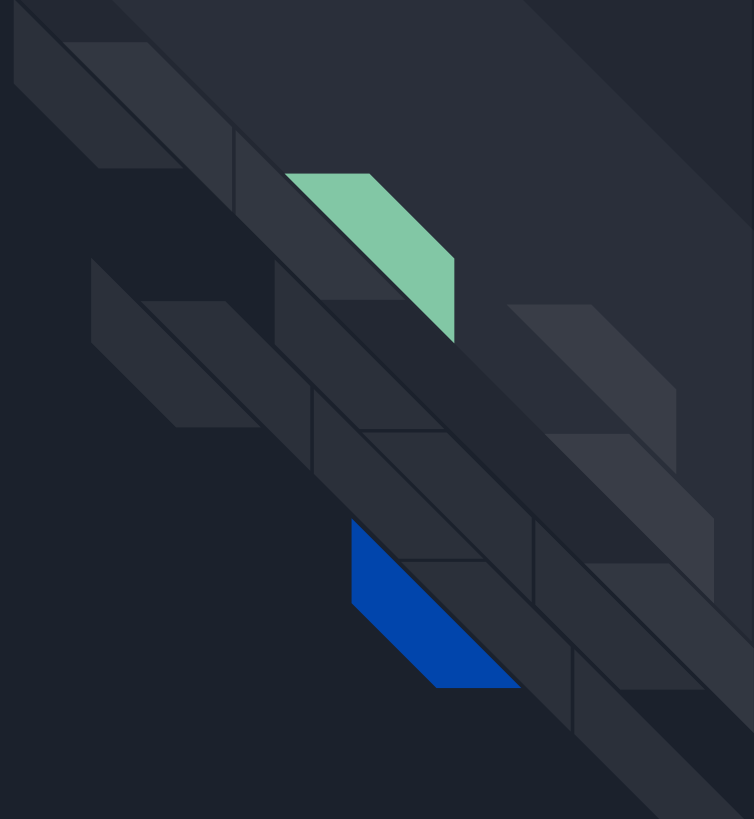
Departments
Present annual budget request to CAO

BUDGET PROCESS

The County budget process is a continuous cycle of developing, monitoring and planning, with specific steps each year to achieve adoption of the Final Budget.



Why is
Budget advocacy
Important?





Building Community Power

- Educate Yourself and Mobilize Your Community
- Collaborate with Local Organizations and Coalitions
- Leverage Data and Research



Stepping Into Leadership

- Engage with Policymakers
- Utilize Public Forums and Hearings
- Advocate for Transparency and Accountability



Being An Active Advocate

- Support local issues by providing public comment, attend meetings, share information and efforts with other community residents
- Attend Advisory committee meetings i.e Equity Committee
- Sample public comment insert here, toolkit, etc

📌 Instructions For Public Comment At January 30th, Board Of Supervisors Meeting 📌

🕒 **When:** Tuesday, January 30th, 2023 - BoS meeting begins at 9:30am
Where: 65 Civic Ave, Pittsburg Ca, City Council Chambers

📄 Sample Public Comment Script 📄

My name is [NAME], and I live in [City in Contra Costa County]. As a member of the budget justice coalition, I believe that budgets are about connecting *social* values with *dollar* values to provide community members with resources and opportunities that help them lead healthy, fulfilling, and prosperous lives. We are particularly interested in uplifting the importance of equity budgeting and working with the County to support the implementation of more robust equity tools, resources, and frameworks in the budgeting process.

BOS Budget Retreat Toolkit

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30TH, at 9:30 am

Zoom Link: <https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/87344719204>

City of Pittsburg, City Hall Council Chamber, 65 Civic Avenue.

Call to action! Join us next Tuesday to support BJC's equitable budget models and community engagement tool to help advance equity throughout the budget process in Contra Costa County.

- ★ I am in full support of the ideas presented by the Budget Justice Coalition and the Bay Area Equity Atlas and of BJC's budget equity plan
- ★ Express appreciation for the commitment of the new Board Chair, Federal Glover, to equity, diversity, inclusion and access.
- ★ Support the leadership of the new Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ)
- ★ Urge the Board to consider implementing more equitable budget processes throughout the development of budget proposals from departments that widely serve and impact county residents.
- ★ Please adapt and personalize you

A collage of heart-shaped photos showing community members at a rally. The text reads: **BE OUR VALENTINE**
JOIN THE CONCORD RENT STABILIZATION & JUST CAUSE VOTE
FEBRUARY 13TH 1950 PARKSIDE DR, CONCORD
RALLY AT 5:30 PM
MEETING STARTS AT 6:30 PM
#WELOVECONCORD #SHOWRENTERSLOVE

I SUPPORT IMMIGRANTS IN
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

**FUND STAND TOGETHER
CONTRA COSTA NOW!!**



How YOU Can Get Involved!

Upcoming events in the Budget Cycle

April 22 & 23 Public Budget hearings

May 21 Final budget adoption

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S BUDGET, JOIN OUR
COALITION!