

SPARCS City Forum webinar on
Citizen Engagement

Reykjavík city- Participation platforms

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*Democracy in
process*

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Three Gateways for citizen's participation+



My District

What would I as a citizen of my district like to see change in my everyday surroundings? The ideas come from the citizens but is executed by the city.
Collaboration.

„Fix-it“

Fix it

I as a citizen see something that needs fixing right away. Report Gateway. Here the city is the main doer.



9 Resident's councils

Open meetings every month in each district where all interested are welcome. The councils operate as a point of contact between the city government and it's residents.



+ Democracy is all around

some legally binding

User committees:

Youth council's

Students associations

Parents associations

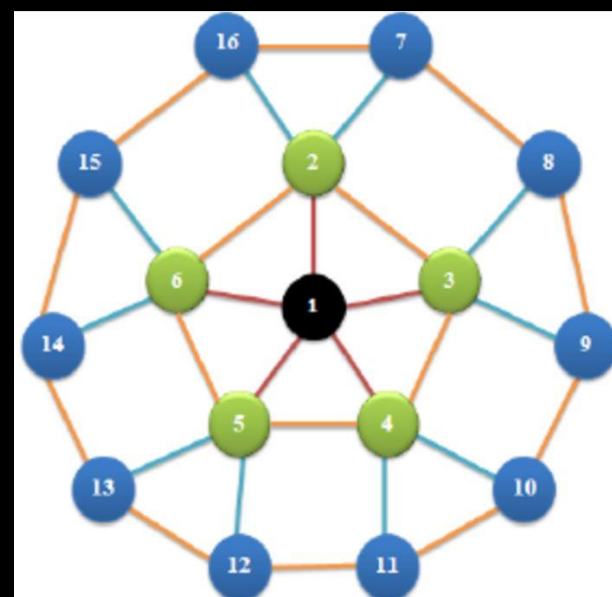
Social centers for the elderly

Residents councils

Open and transparent
government

Live streaming from city council
meeting and access to
documents

Access to elected
representatives



Democracy policy of the city of Reykjavík is in the making

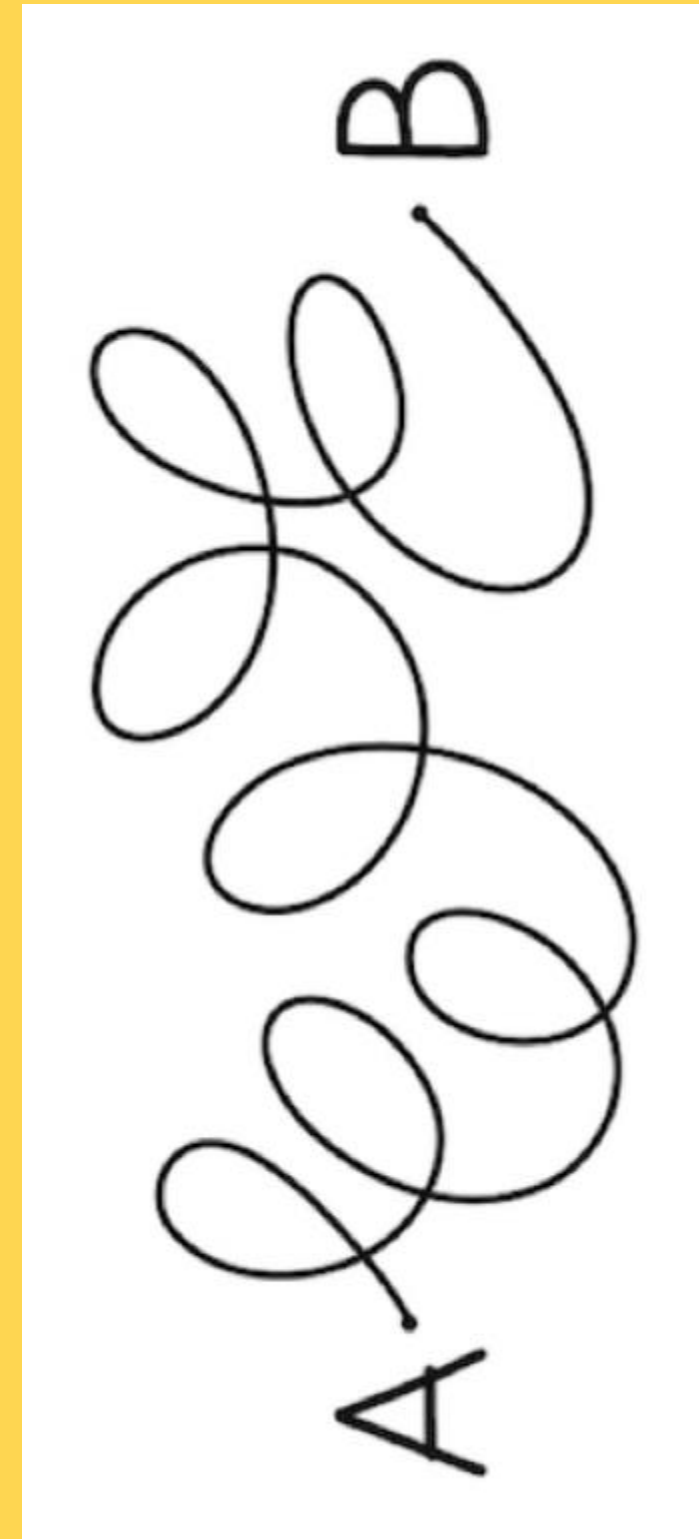
2020



Democracy policy in the making

Key points:

- Dedication
- inclusion
- Action plan
- implementation



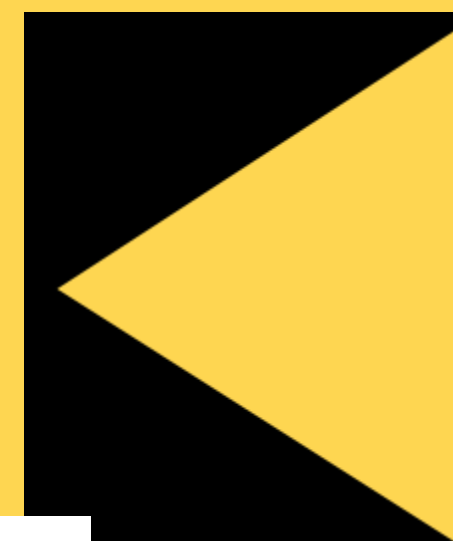
MY DISTRICT

**Our biggest participatory
democracy project and only PB
project. Launched in 2011**





1. My District - How did it all begin?
2. How does it work?
3. Role of Reykjavík
4. Challenges and lessons



2009: A platform for the citizens appears

- The Citizens foundation is founded
- Main goal to help citizens get their voices heard
- Launch a platform called „Better Reykjavík"

2010:Municipal elections

- New party arises
 - „The Best Party"
- Led by a well known comedian
 - Only party that used the platform to involve the citizens
 - Win the elections

2011: My District

- One of the promises made during the campaign was to include the Better Reykjavík platform in city governing
- So they did - Project: My District was born



The beginning

- 
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 - 2. How does it work?**
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 - 4. Challenges and lessons**

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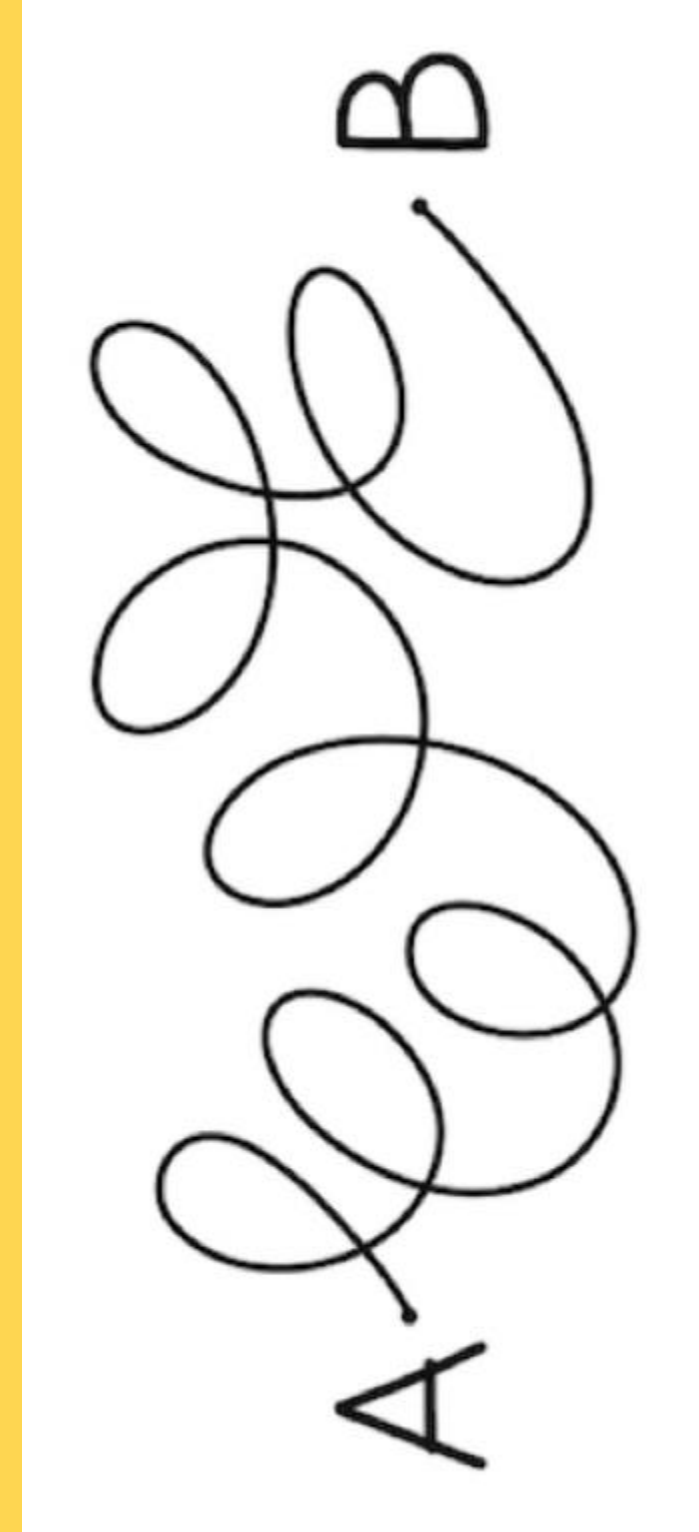
HOW DOES IT WORK?

MY DISTRICT IS A:

COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN THE CITIZEN AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATION FOR PRIORITISING AND DISTRIBUTING FUNDS FOR NEW, SMALLER-SCALE PROJECTS IN THE 10 DISTRICTS OF REYKJAVÍK



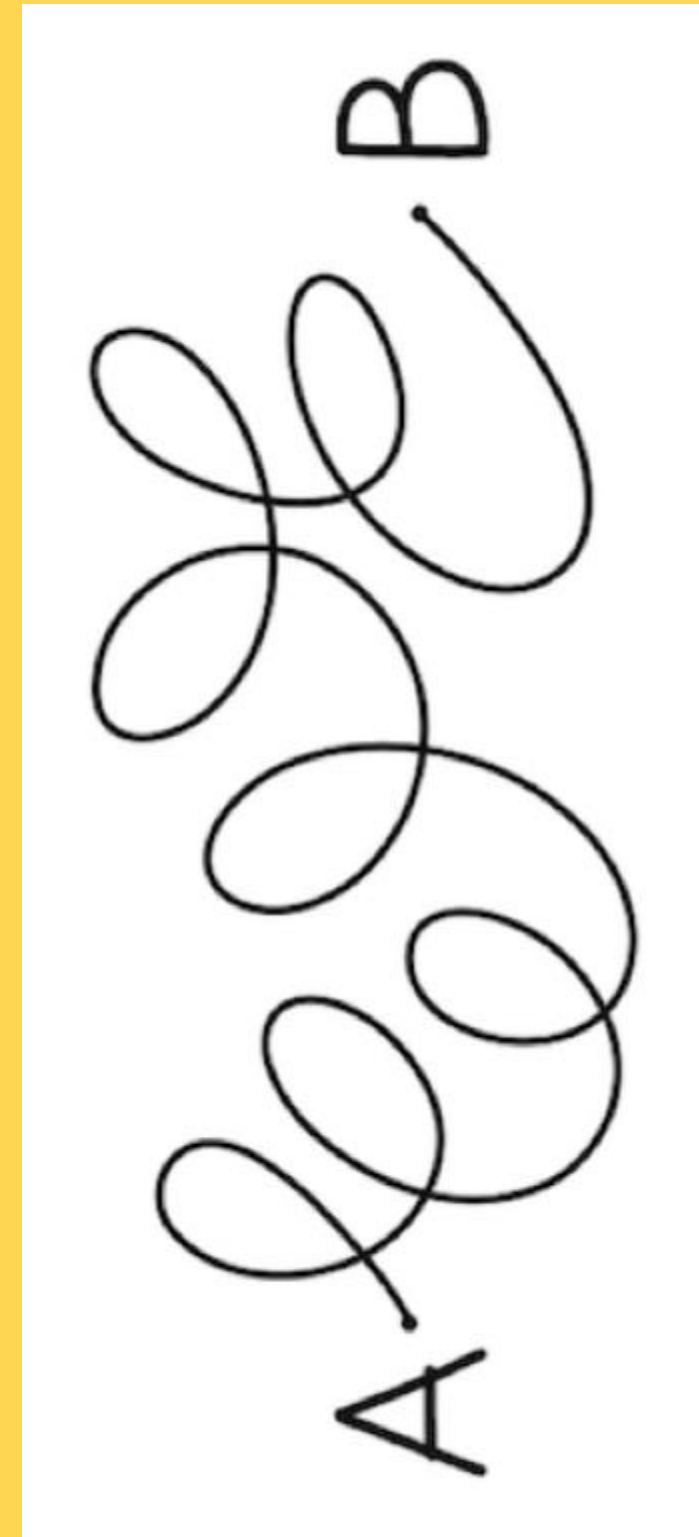
Since 2012, 696 projects
have been executed and 91
more will be executed this
summer.



2 year timeline

- Oktober – idea collecting
- November to January – administrative reviewing and selecting of valid ideas for voting
- February to March – predesigning and collaboratory work
- April to May – voting
- September to Oktober – collaboration with authors of the ideas and stakeholders
- January to September – bidding, implementing and executing


And the cycle begins again 😊





VILT ÞÚ HAFA ÁHRIF Á HVERFIÐ ÞITT ?



- 
-
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-

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3,6 MILLION EUROS DIVIDED BETWEEN THE 10 DISTRICTS OF REYKJAVÍK

To ensure minimum amount for the smallest districts, one-quarter of the funding is divided equally among all districts. The rest is divided in direct proportion to the number of residents in each district.

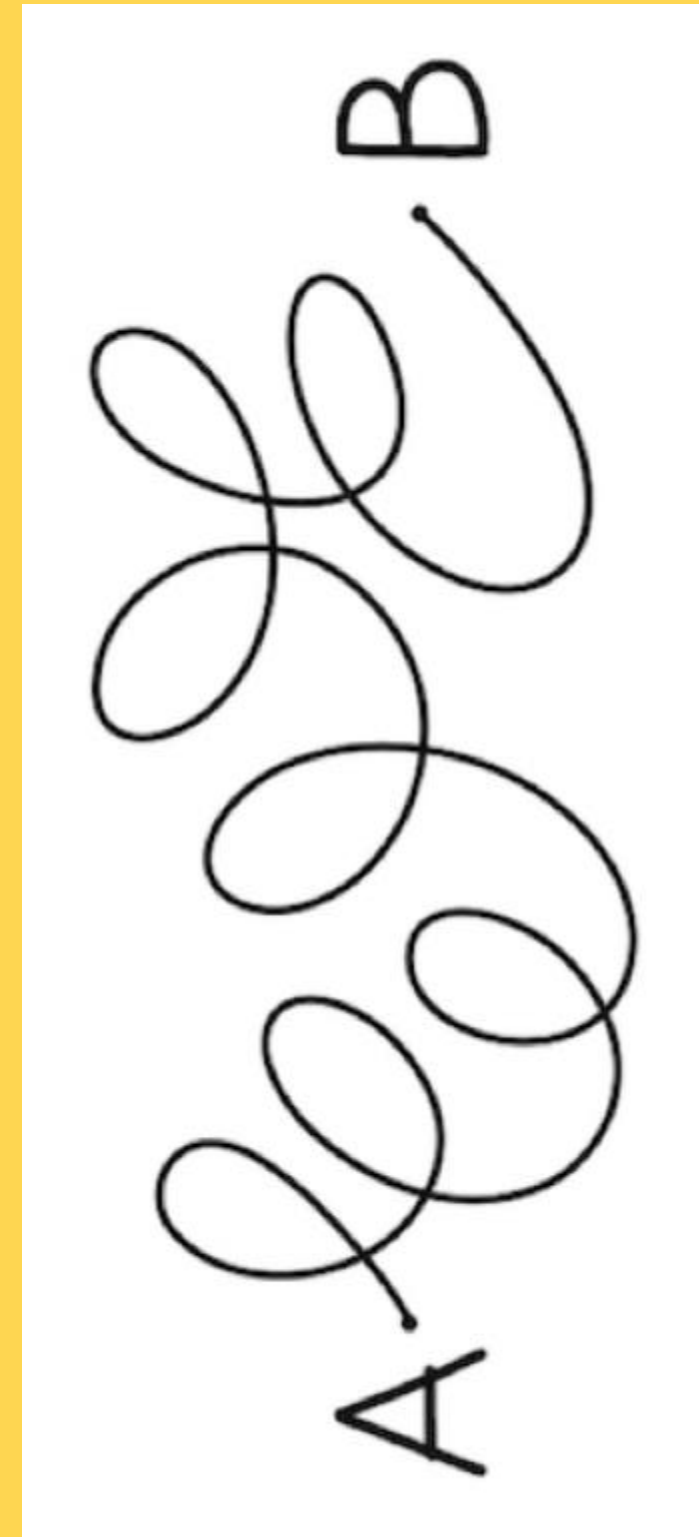


2019

Last year we completed our 8th execution of the project.

Idea generation in April with 39.000 visitors, 37% of the voting population. Total of 1054 ideas were collected which is a record number of ideas. Valid ideas where 406 and on the ballot we had 236 ideas.

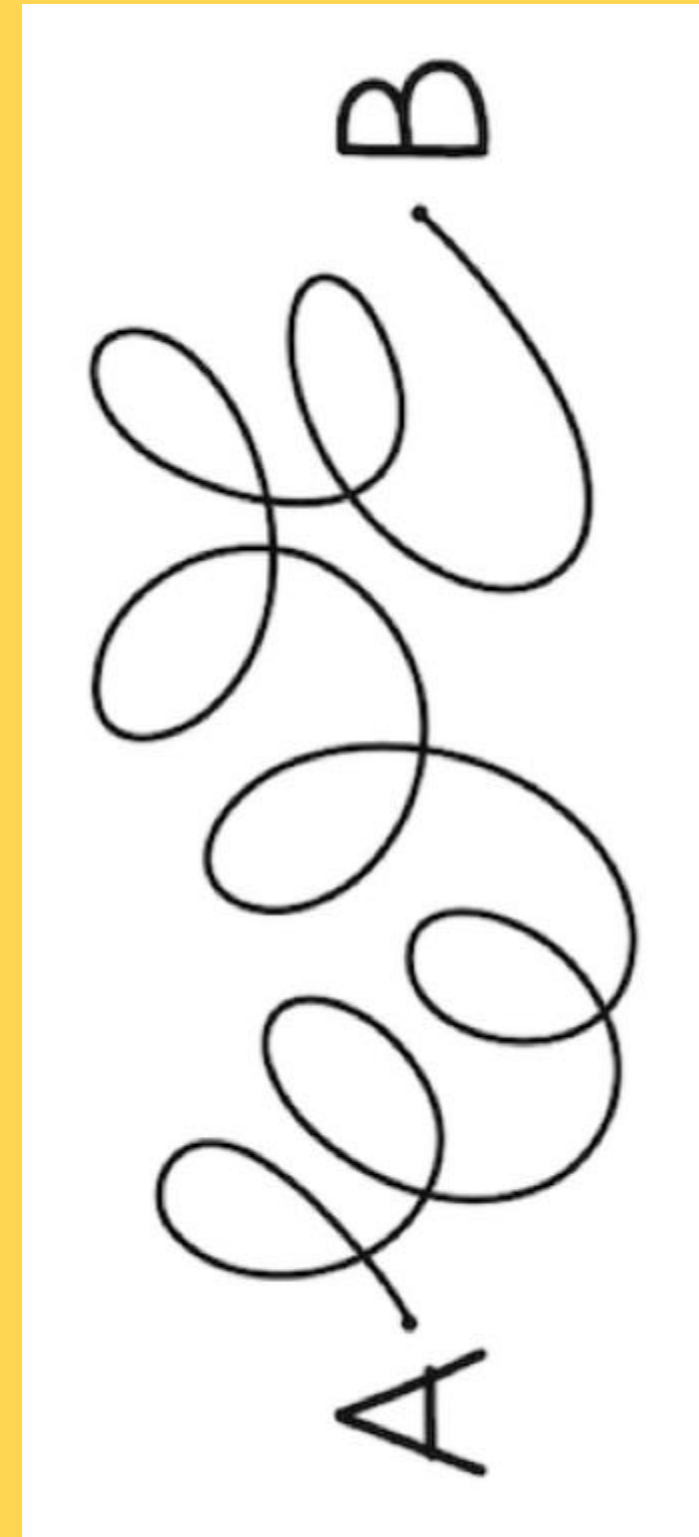
Voting in November with 12,55% turnout and 91 new ideas elected.



The platform

Where the ideas are collected
there is a debate system,
Up/Down voting, possibility to
video/audio record your ideas
and/or arguments.

More accessible than ever
before.





Háaleiti og Bústaðir

Maps



Repairing holes on Traðarland

18 millions



Improvements to playgrounds by Markland and Kjarrvegur.



5 millions



Improvements to basketball court by Snæland.

10 millions



Fruit trees in open areas.



3 millions



Better-looking civic property by Háleitissbraut.



5 millions



Improvements to the football pitch by Blesugróf.

15 millions



Improvements to the play area by Markland.

7 millions



Mending the footpath at the end of Ljósaland.

11 millions



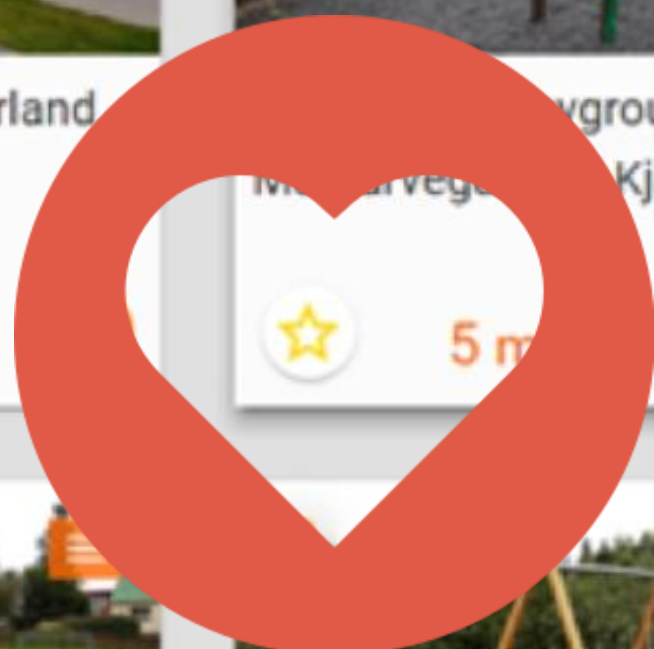
Improvements to the sledge slope by Búland.

14 millions



Install gym equipment at open area by Miðbær shopping center

8 millions



OUR GROWTH

Progress over the years



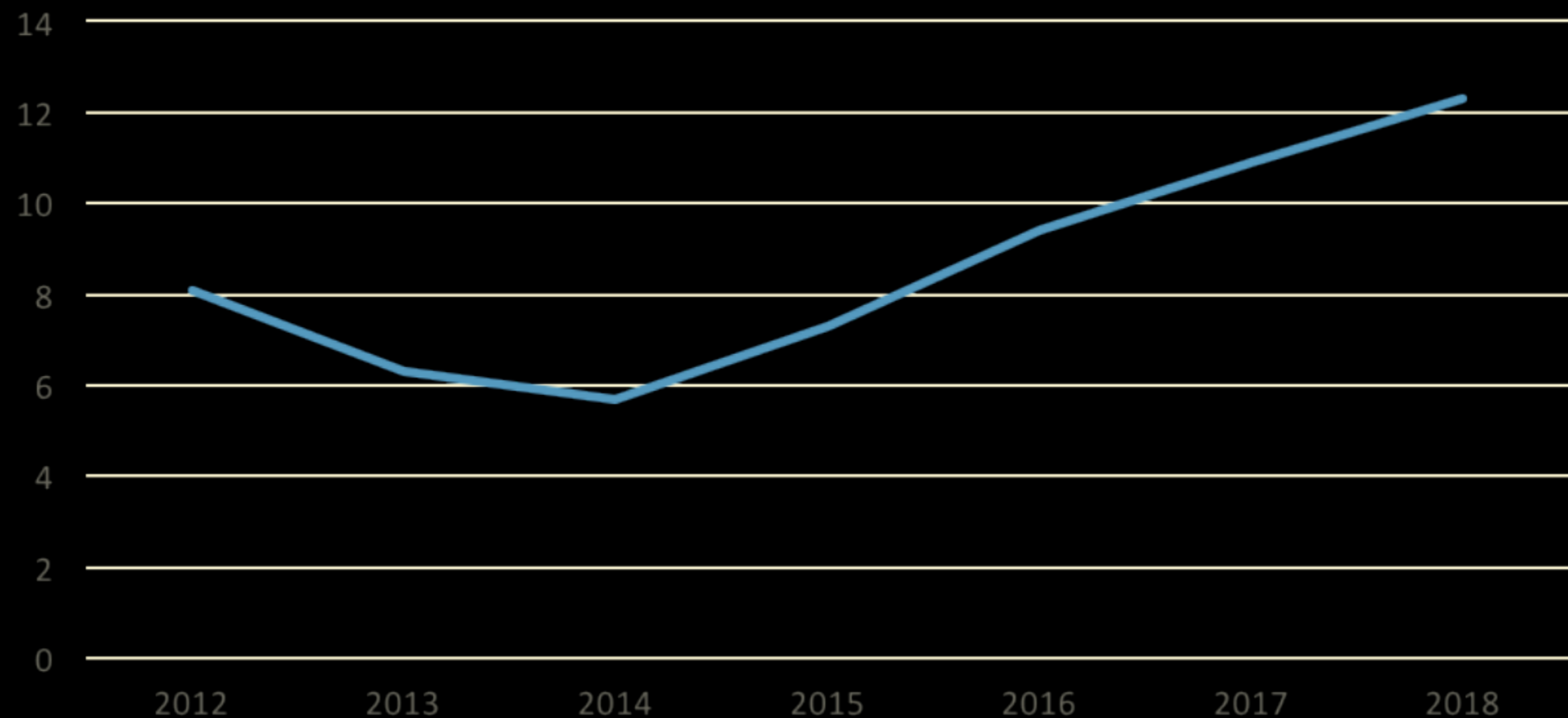
In 2018 we lowered the voting age from 16 to 15 but still managed to grow!

More conversations and stronger offline presence than ever before

From 11.% í 12,3%

And in 2019 12,55%

Voting participation from 2012-2018





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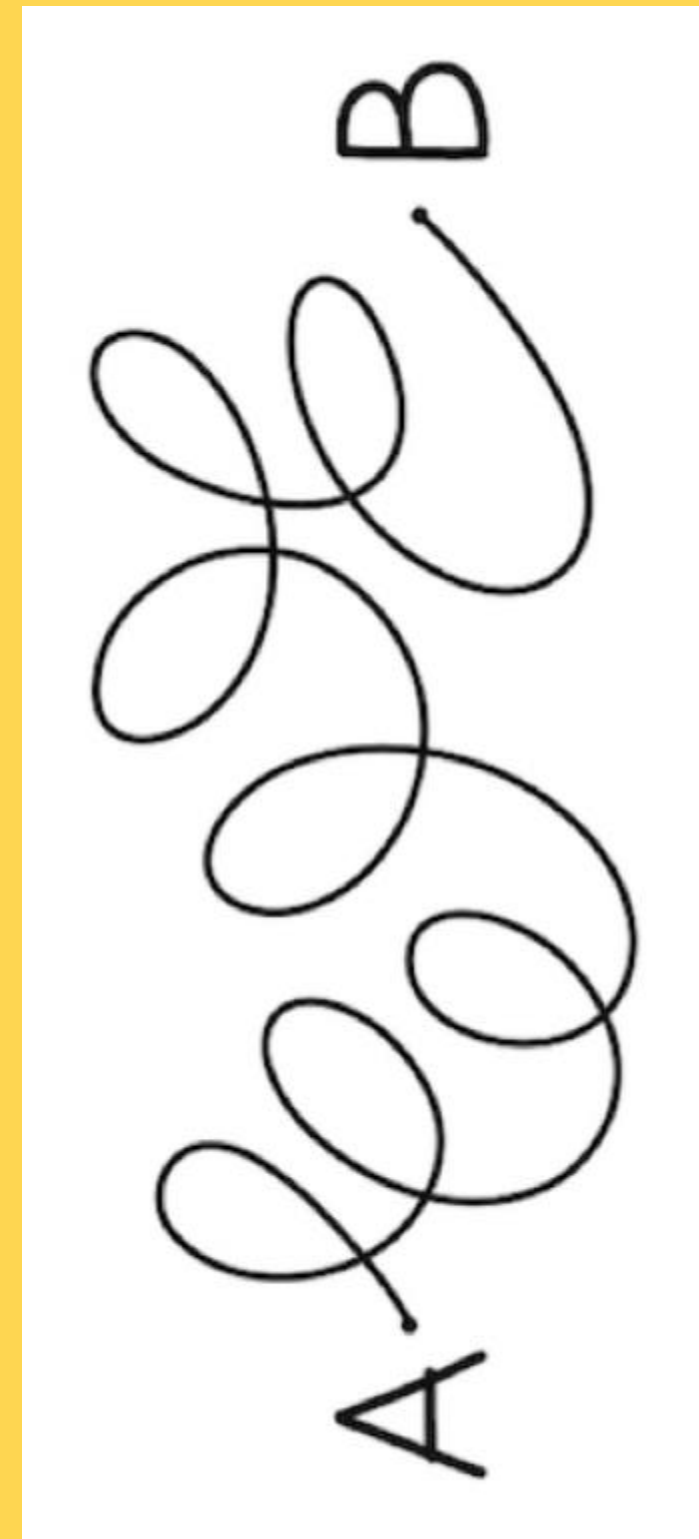


OUR EXPERIENCE AND LESSONS

Labour intensive
Never fully developed
Learning experience for
everyone

Hard to reach groups
beyond the „usual
suspects“

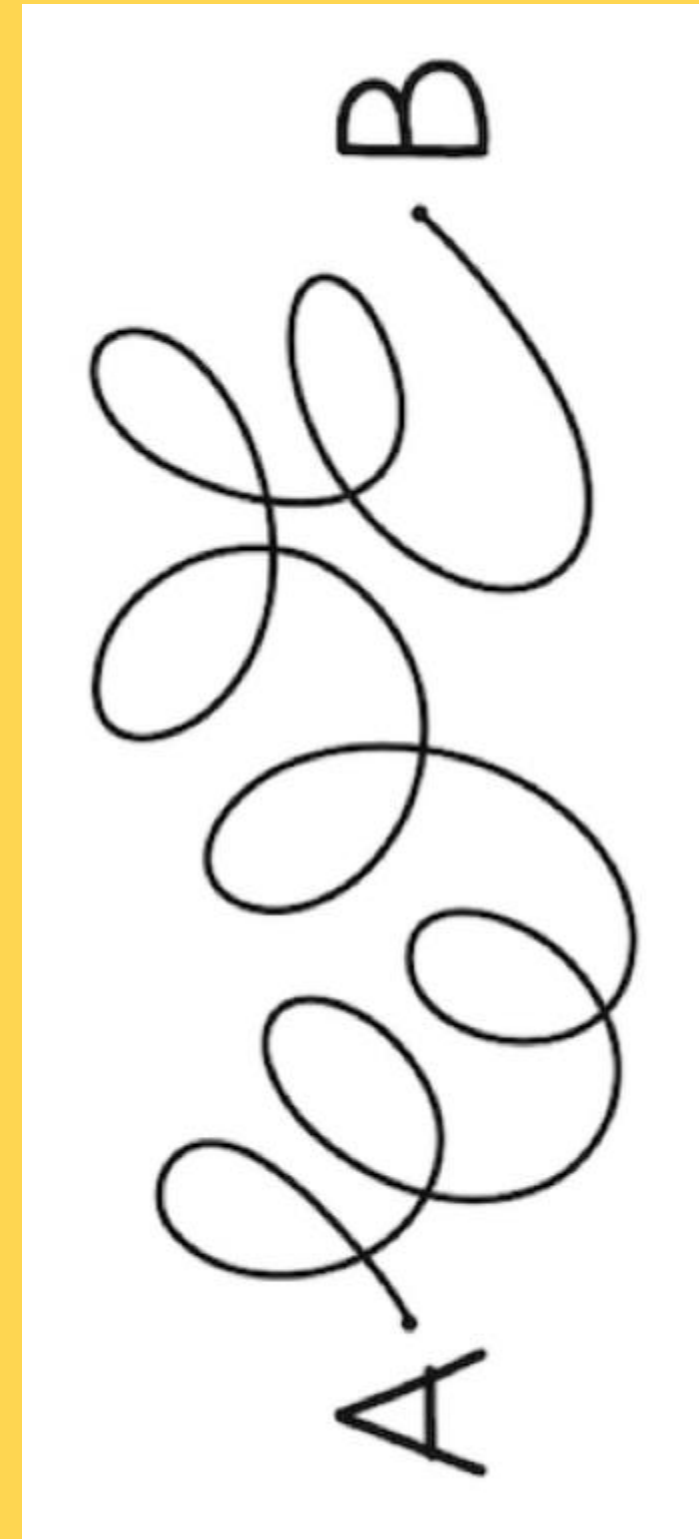
Dialogue and co-operation
is the most important part



Biggest challenges

NIMBY

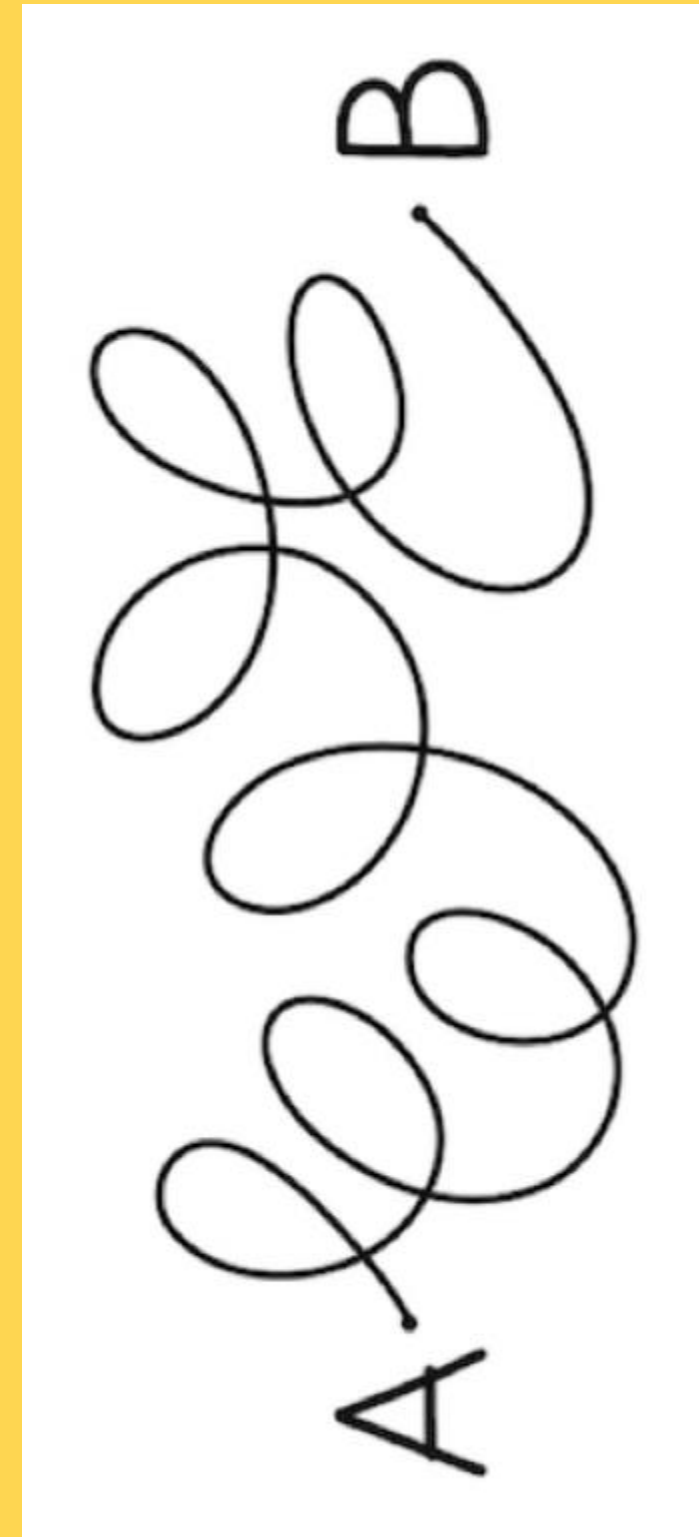
Turnout



Added value

Great value in the “discussion” when the ideas are reviewed within the administration.

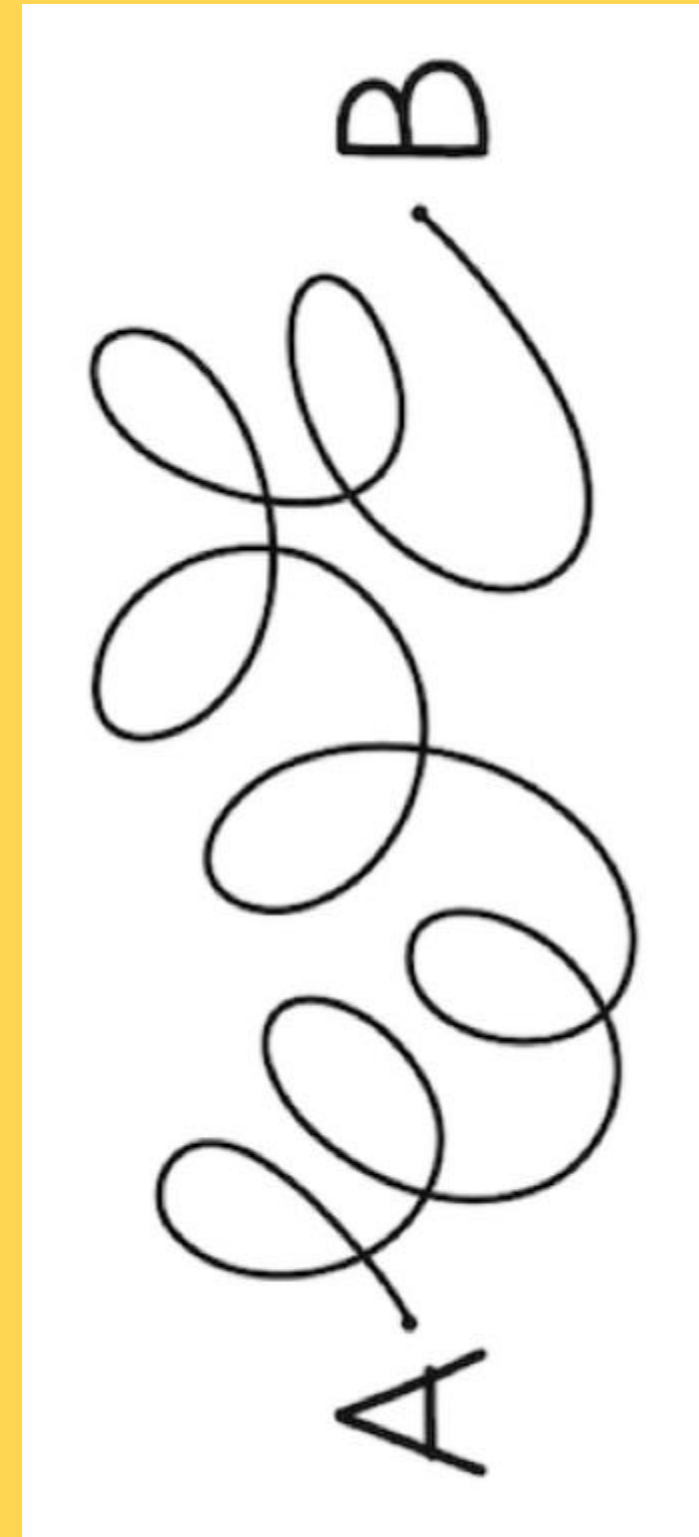
The project gives both administration and politics a feel for the districts, how the people feel and what they need.



Changes 2020

Timeline
Every other year

More collaboration
throughout the system



**Still
going
strong**

Takk!

