



City of Freeport, Illinois

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CITY OF FREEPORT ADOPTS INNOVATIVE PLATFORMS TO BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITY USING TECHNOLOGY TO INCLUDE MORE PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND INCREASE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

The City of Freeport is excited to announce the simultaneous launch of two technology platforms - NonProfitTHRIVE and Polco. NonProfitTHRIVE is a website that will allow residents to easily find community service and volunteer projects across the city and provide both companies and the City with an easy way to track progress. Nonprofit organizations and the City will begin using NonProfitTHRIVE starting in February. The second platform, Polco, is a civic communication website and mobile app where residents can directly influence our community decision-making process. Through new insights using Polco's civic analytics platform and apps, our elected officials will post questions directly to citizens and receive insightful, reliable data to drive local policy decisions. We value our community's willingness to volunteer, as well as their perspective on local issues; and the City is committed to improving the channels for *all residents* for positive change.

Residents can become active users by visiting <https://nonprofitthrive.com/> and <https://polco.us/> to create accounts. NonProfitTHRIVE does not share any identifying information; only aggregate data is shared. In addition, Polco is committed to a strict privacy policy where they only share aggregated de-identified results. Participant detailed data and votes are never shared. *This service is free to all constituents.*

About NonProfit THRIVE. NonProfitTHRIVE.com connects the dots between volunteers, nonprofits, and the ever-growing number of organizations requiring volunteer hours. NonProfitTHRIVE provides one platform for volunteer procurement and management, with volunteer hours verified and reported to the organizations requiring the data all while being free for nonprofits to use and reducing the cost and hassle for the organizations requiring volunteer hours. Start your account now; visit <https://nonprofitthrive.com/>

About Polco: Polco is a platform designed to increase civic engagement, improve government transparency, and inform municipal governments of constituents' input which, in turn, will help better guide public policy. Polco provides the tools for municipalities to collect resident's views concerning proposed legislation, ordinances, or meeting agenda items. Community responses are validated using the local voter database to verify the responses. Civic engagement is enhanced by using websites, widgets, and apps to meet the citizens where they are. Residents become more active and informed participants in the political process by voicing their views to municipal leaders and other citizens. Polco makes voicing opinions accessible, easy, and convenient. For more information about Polco, please visit <https://polco.us/>.
