

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Town of Frederick Wins 2023 Voice of the People Award

FREDERICK, Colorado (October 16) The Town of Frederick has achieved significant recognition by receiving the Voice of the People (VOP) Award for Transformation of Health and Wellness. This announcement was made during this year's International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference.

The VOP Awards honor local governments that best engage residents and actively incorporate public opinion into pivotal community decisions. These are the first and only nationally recognized awards given to local governments for their dedication to harnessing resident input. This is the 15th year of the awards, presented jointly by Polco and the ICMA.

In a time of fading public trust and polarization, community-centered governance is more important than ever.

"There are acute challenges disrupting local government today. Collaboration, resident participation, and data-informed decision-making are the only ways to solve these complex issues. These amazing communities are national models for taking on pernicious problems in government. It's why the VOP awards are so important—these organizations are making the blueprint to better democracy in an era of profound transition," said Nick Mastronardi, CEO of Polco. "We are so excited to honor the hard work of these deserving communities."

"At the heart of Frederick's progress and success is community involvement! We are proud to be recognized with the VOP Award. It serves as a testament to the vital role of putting our community's voice at the forefront of our endeavors." said Tracie Crites, Mayor.

VOP Award categories include excellence or transformation in economy, safety, natural environment, health and wellness, mobility, education, parks and recreation, utilities, housing, finance, and online engagement.

<u>Polco</u>, a community engagement and civic analytics technology company, presents the Voice of the People Awards in partnership with ICMA. The full list of winners was released at the 2023 ICMA Annual Conference in Austin, Texas.

For question, please contact Renae Lehr, Public Information Officer at rlehr@frederickco.gov

ABOUT THE TOWN OF FREDERICK —With its close proximity to the Denver metro area and the Northern Front Range, the Town of Frederick is a dynamic community at the center of commerce, industry and education. Multiple recreational and residential facilities make the Town of Frederick a retreat full of diverse opportunity that continues to respect its heritage as a mining town incorporated in 1907.

ABOUT Polco

Polco brings people and data together to help build stronger, healthier communities - all on one award-winning online platform. Backed by an expert service team and in-house data science lab, Polco is the first and only platform to offer access to clear insights from industry-leading surveys, polls, government performance data, and interactive engagement simulations. Polco allows leaders to engage residents around their most important topics, align goals, and strengthen public trust.

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