



# VILLAGE OF MAYWOOD

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## VILLAGE OF MAYWOOD ADOPTS NEW PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLATFORM

### DIVERSIFYING ENGAGEMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

**Maywood, IL,** – The Village of Maywood is excited to announce the launch of Polco ([www.polco.us](http://www.polco.us)), an innovative online engagement platform that allows residents to provide direct input to the local government decision-making process. By using Polco, the Village is making public participation easier for residents. Officials will post questions directly to residents on Polco's app and website, where residents answer and comment on the questions.

The Village of Maywood will soon be asking residents for their input on repair of roadways (including alleys) and beautifying the downtown corridor. Specifically, the Village wants to know what residents think about which areas need the most attention.

*"Village officials want to hear from the residents and how they want to utilize ARPA funding,"* said Trustee Miguel Jones who chairs the Fiscal Accountability & Government Transparency Committee. *The funding provided under the American Rescue Plan Act provides a unique opportunity for the Village of Maywood to allocate funding to make strategic investments in our recovery from the pandemic. POLCO is our community engagement platform to track input from residents and business owners. Please take a moment to fill out the survey."*

The Village will be asking for further input on technology, equity-based initiatives, and other projects on Polco in the coming weeks and months.

*"Maywood is a diverse community, and it is critical that we hear from as many community voices as possible. This feedback will inform how the ARPA funding is leveraged and maximized for greatest impact,"* stated Village Manager Chasity Wells-Armstrong.

To participate, residents should go to <https://polco.us/maywoodopen1>. They can respond online or download the Polco app for Android or iOS. Once they have answered the questions, residents will be asked to provide their ZIP code to confirm where they live. This allows the Village to be sure they are hearing from each person only once and to identify the general area of the city in which respondents live. Responses will remain anonymous and personal information will be securely stored on Polco.

Residents can choose to provide an email address to Polco, which will allow the Village to easily contact them with future questions. This service is free to all residents. Polco is committed to a strict privacy policy—they only share anonymous, combined results. Participants' individual data and votes are never shared.

For more information, contact the Village at the contact information above.

For RESIDENTS: <https://polco.us/maywoodopen1>

For BUSINESS: <https://polco.us/maywoodbizopen1>

The survey takes about 5 minutes to complete. Print versions of the survey will also be available, and an announcement will be made once print versions are available. Village Hall lobby reception desk and delivered to a host of other locations within the Village of Maywood.

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