



Raleigh Civic Assembly Session 1



CivicGenius
A program of the National Civic League

About Us

Founded in 1894 by Teddy Roosevelt, Louis Brandeis, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Mary Munford, NCL established the Model City Charter, city manager form of government, and other reforms to fight corruption, end patronage, and advance public health.

The mission of the National Civic League is to advance inclusive civic engagement and promote innovations in democracy to make decision-making more participatory, equitable, and effective.



What is a Civic Assembly?

A civic assembly is a randomly selected, representative group of people who come together across ideological and demographic differences to learn about, deliberate on, and recommend solutions to key public policy questions.

What is a Civic Assembly?

- Input from a cross section of residents
- Ample time to consider information and varied perspectives
- Recommendations with high support
- Clear vision that supports government action



Assemblies Around the World

- **France (2019):** Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- **Manningham, Australia (2024):** City budgeting
- **Canada (2021):** Responding to false online information
- **Victoria, Canada (2024-25):** Whether to merge two neighboring cities
- **Petaluma, California (2022):** How to develop an unused fairground



Why a Civic Assembly?

- Supports collective problem-solving
- Levels the playing field
- Builds mutual trust between the community and government
- Boosts civic knowledge
- Creates solid public policy



Raleigh's Question

“Raleigh is in the process of improving bus service around the city. How should the next Comprehensive Plan **improve access** to the new service? What should the **neighborhoods** served by frequent bus service **look like?**”

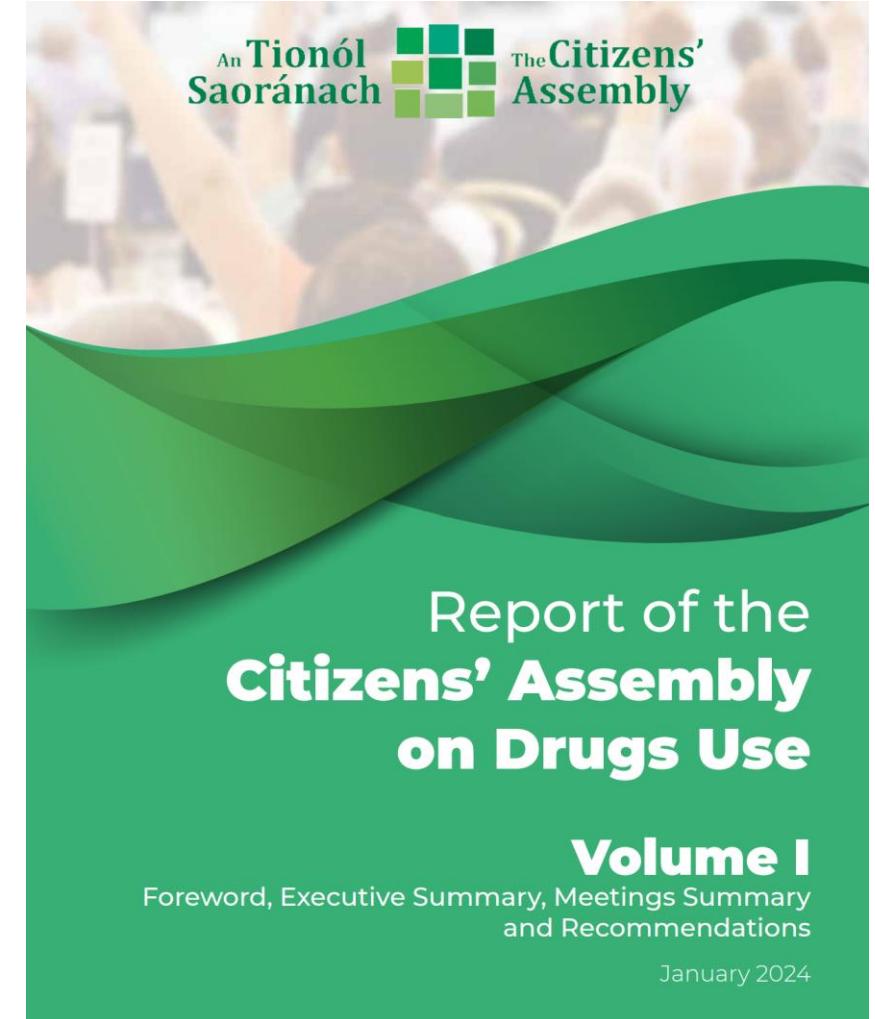
Who Participates

- Cross section of Raleigh
- 10,000 total invitations
- 40 participants selected by lottery

End Goal: Recommendations

Assembly will cooperatively draft a set of recommendations.

- Blank-page report
- Multiple rounds of drafting
- Vote on set of final recommendations.
- Minority report possible



This is Your Assembly

We're here to serve.



Our Commitment to You

- Neutrality
- Transparency
- Purpose
- Clarity
- Information

Facilitators

Here to ensure that:

- Respect rules the day.
- Everyone gets equal contribution time.
- Everyone understands all activities.
- We all use our time well.

Tips for Participants

- Eyes on the prize
- Ask for information
- Ask questions
- Get facts checked
- Take notes
- Learn with others

Questions?



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