

My District E-Elections 2018

My District is a collaborative project between citizens and the City administration for prioritising and distributing funds for new, smaller-scale projects and maintenance in the districts of Reykjavík. The project begins in February 2018 and will continue into October 2019.

Citizens can participate in and follow the project on the consultation forum www.hverfidmitt.is, on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Betri.Reykjavik> on the portal Framkvæmdasjá <http://reykjavik.is/framkvaemdir-i-reykjavik-framkvaemdasja> or through their district service centres or district committees.

What is the Ideology behind My District?

The project is based on ideas on deliberative democracy, participatory democracy, participatory budgeting – in general promoting public participation in democratic discussions and decision-making beyond what is normally seen in a representative democracy. Experience of previous years is used to improve the process, together with expert services and input from other cities all over the world that have practised participatory budgeting.

Time Schedule

Feb 27 – March 20:	Submission of ideas
March 27 – April 30	Reykjavík City assesses ideas.
May 8 – June 15:	District committees select up to 25 projects in each district to stand for district e-voting
May 30 – Sept 1:	Ideas are pre- designed by design team
Aug 15 – Oct 10:	Preparations for e-voting.
Oct 11 – Oct 31:	District e-voting
Nov 6 – March 14:	Preparations for implementation
April 14 – Sept 30:	Implementation
Oct 1 2019:	Project conclusion

Allocation of Funds by District

A total budget of ISK 450 million is planned for the project. As before, these funds are reserved for smaller-scale new projects and maintenance.

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

The first ISK 112.5 million is therefore divided equally among all ten districts, with each of them receiving ISK 11.25 million. The remaining ISK 337.5 million is divided among the City's 122,709 residents living in its various districts, which amounts to ISK 2,750,41 per capita. This figure is then multiplied by the number of residents in each district, with the outcome the total allocation for the district. The number of residents and their distribution among districts is based on figures from end of year 2016 from the city department of welfare.

- Árbær: 42 millions
- Breiðholt: 70 millions
- Grafarholt-Úlfarsárdalur: 30 millions
- Grafarvogur: 61 million
- Háaleiti-Bústaðir: 51 million
- Hlíðar: 39 millions
- Kjalarnes: 14 millions
- Laugardalur: 56 millions
- Miðborg: 33 millions
- Vesturbær: 55 millions

Submission of Ideas

Residents are invited to submit ideas to stand for district e-voting in October 2018.

The ideas should:

- benefit the entire district,
- not cost more than the funds available for the district;
- not take more time to implement than the time schedule permits;
- be consistent with the City's planning and policy, fall within the remit of the City and be on City territory;
- bring the district closer to the citizens vision of the future, e.g. smart city, healthy, child- or age-friendly.

Ideas could concern, for instance:

- the outdoor environment and possibilities for outdoor leisure and recreation;
- facilities for games and leisure;
- improving conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and users of public transportation;
- smart solutions for all sorts of things.

Submitted ideas will be assessed by the City and some will be put up for district e-vote.

To submit an idea to the consultation forum www.betireykjavik.is, or www.hverfidmitt.is a user must first register, select his or her district and make sure the name of the idea, the location and the description are clear. An idea can be submitted for any district of Reykjavík regardless of where the person submitting it resides. Explanations and arguments for the idea can then be added in the same manner.

Anyone can make use of the public computers available in the City's libraries and service centres for this purpose.

Assessment of Ideas

The City of Reykjavík begins to assess ideas as soon as they are submitted. The ideas are assessed on the basis of the guidelines given for their submission.

The project team's conclusions will accompany each idea in the consultation forum so that users will know if the idea in its present form cannot be considered. An attempt will be made to obtain a more detailed description and to adapt the idea in collaboration with its author and web users.

Those ideas which cannot be implemented or which exceed the district's financial limits, and which cannot be adapted sufficiently through consultation between the project team and the author of the idea,

are automatically eliminated and will not be offered in the district E-elections. There may be fewer than 25 ideas for each district if an insufficient number of ideas are submitted through the process and/or if they cannot be fitted into the guidelines for ideas invited here.

District Committees

After assessment of ideas district committees will meet with city staff to discuss their assessment of ideas received for the district. After the meeting the district committees will select up to 25 ideas to be put up for district e-vote. In this selection the district committees consider, for instance, the distribution of projects in the district and the diversity of the ideas and the groups they are likely to be most useful for.

District E-Election

Once a list of projects has been prepared for each district, Reykjavík residents will be able to choose among up to 25 projects in each district. The elections are held on a special web portal, where the user signs on securely (using Icekey or other electronic ID) and votes are encrypted, making it impossible to link votes to individuals. Anyone who has reached the age of 15 as of 31 December 2018 and is domiciled in Reykjavík when the voting takes place is eligible to participate. District e-election will take place Oct 11 – Oct 31 2018. Precise arrangements will be advertised when the date approaches.

Please note that this is not a residents' election in the sense of Art. 107 of the Municipalities Act, No. 138/2011, which entered into force on 1 January 2012.

Project Implementation

Projects will be designed, put out to tender and implemented from late 2018 to October 2019, when work is to have been completed. Information on their progress will be made available on the City of Reykjavík website (*Framkvæmdasjá*) and on Better Reykjavík. Efforts will be made to consult with persons submitting ideas and district councils on project implementation, especially in those cases where ideas need to be emended.

Those ideas which are not selected will be directed into alternate channels at the City of Reykjavík, e.g. as suggestions for departments or input for planning discussion.

What if I cannot use the consultation forum?

Persons who are not able to submit ideas through the consultation web, for instance, due to disabilities, have the option during the idea submission period of sending their ideas by e-mail to unnur.margret.arnardottir@reykjavik.is or by mail addressed to Better Reykjavík, Office of the Mayor and CEO, Ráðhús Reykjavíkur, Tjarnargata 11, 101 Reykjavík. They can also contact their district service centre or the City of Reykjavík service centre by telephone 411-1111 and request assistance.

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Office of the Mayor and CEO