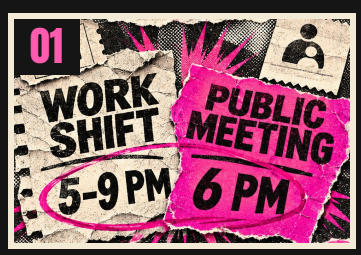
MOTORBLOOM

# THE PUBLIC RECORD

*Fifteen fixes for how government works. Booked as a world tour.*

THE TOUR POSTER EDITION





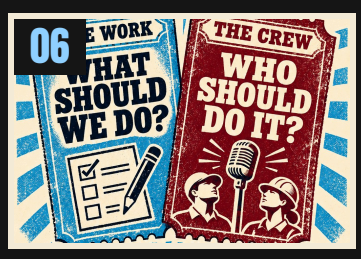






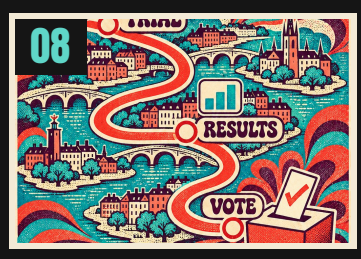




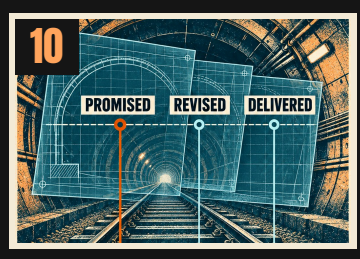














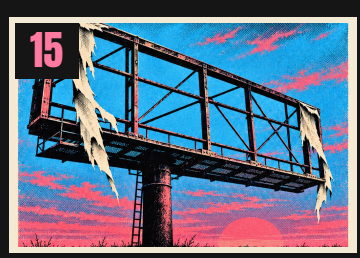











**Open the doors.**
**Follow the money.**
**Keep the score.**

Access · Money · Voting
Plans · Audits · Upkeep
Handoffs

**Fifteen posters.**
**Four acts.**
**One public record.**

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*“Government is a show we all paid for.*
*We should get to see the setlist.”*

**CHRIS A. PIAZZA**

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# BEFORE THE SHOW.

The Public Record is fifteen posters about how government works, not who runs it. Each one takes a single reform, checks it against places that tried it, and shows what worked and what to watch. Read them in order, like a setlist, or pull out the one you need for the next meeting.

### HOW TO READ A POSTER

**Headline:** The fix, in a few words.

**Art:** The idea at a glance.

**Action bar:** What to ask for.

**Two cases:** Real places that tried it, including what to watch.

**Sources:** Where to check us.

### WHAT THIS IS, AND ISN'T

A conversation starter, not a party platform. Every claim was checked against its original source in November 2026. Laws and figures change, so check before you cite. The illustrations are illustrations.

## TONIGHT'S SETLIST

**OPENING ACT** · WHO GETS TO PLAY

01 Who Can Afford to Serve?
02 Who Gets Heard?
03 Follow the Money
04 Put It on the Record

**THE SETLIST** · VOTERS DECIDE

05 You Pick the Setlist
06 One Ballot for the Work
07 Get It on the Bill
08 Try It. Then Vote.

**THE SHOW** · DELIVERING THE WORK

09 Emergency Exit
10 Keep the Original Date
11 Put the Miss on the Mic
12 The Bill Comes Due

**ENCORE** · THE PEOPLE

13 Show Your Work
14 New Crew. Same Work.
15 No Paid Political Ads *(bonus track)*

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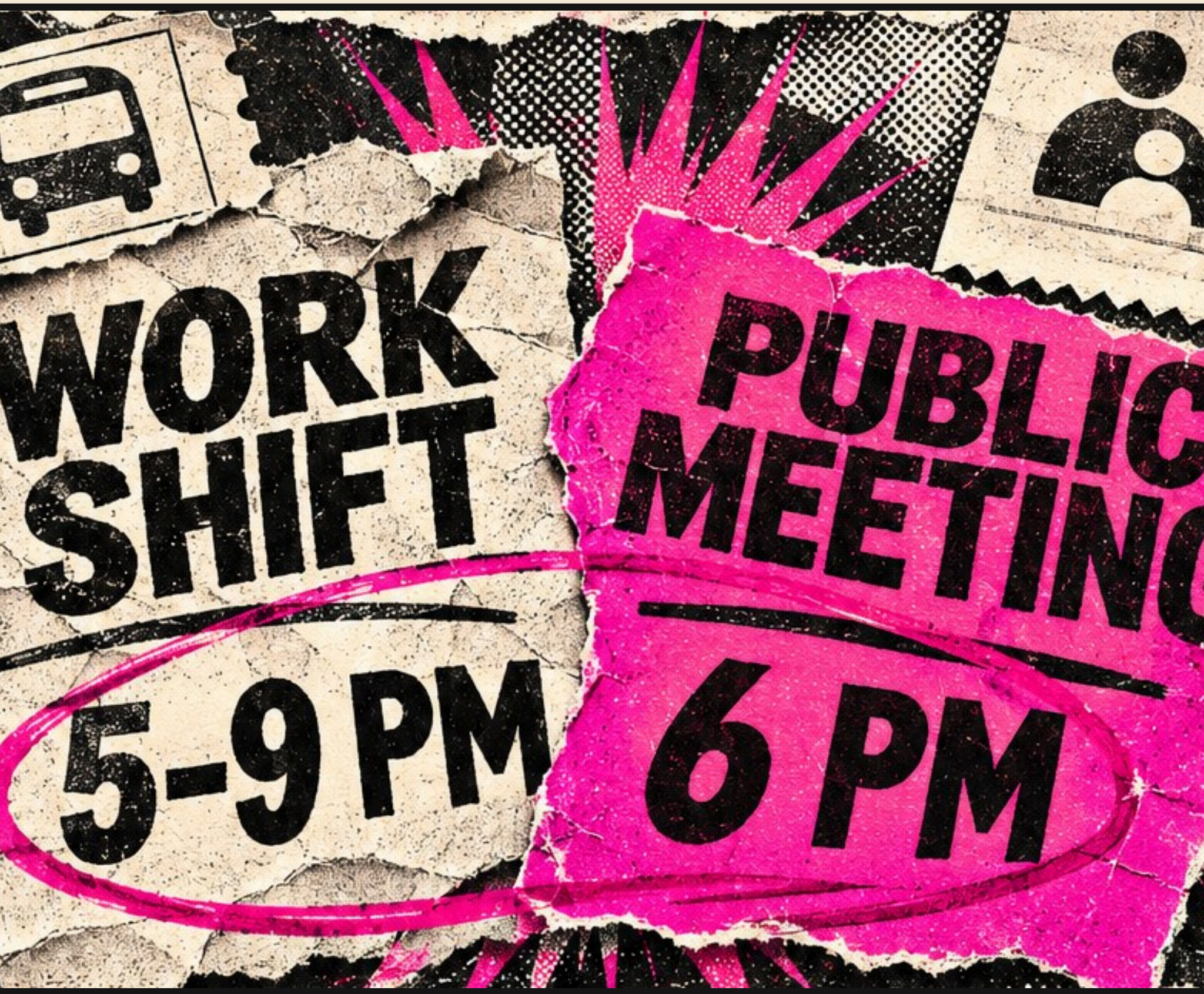
Motorbloom is a series by Chris A. Piazza. Published by Developing Vision, LLC.

# WHO CAN AFFORD TO SERVE?




## *COVER THE COST OF SHOWING UP.*

Pay for travel and childcare so anyone can take a seat.

### IRELAND'S CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

Members are reimbursed for travel and get a contribution toward childcare.

### U.S. STATE LEGISLATURES

Higher salaries alone didn't bring in more working-class lawmakers. The barrier is time and cost, not pay.

*Sources: Citizens' Assembly (Ireland); Carnes & Hansen, American Political Science Review (2016).*

# WHO GETS HEARD?




## GIVE EVERY VOTER $100 TO GIVE.

Four $25 vouchers per resident, for the candidates they choose.

### SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Unique donors per race rose an estimated 350% over the first two voucher cycles.

### WHAT TO WATCH: MAINE & ARIZONA

Full public funding showed no clear change in how often seats were contested.

*Sources: Griffith & Noonen, Journal of Public Economics (2022); U.S. GAO-10-390 (2010).*

# FOLLOW THE MONEY




## *CAP THE SPEND. CLOSE THE BACK DOORS.*

And mail every voter the guide.

### CANADA

Corporations and unions can't donate to federal parties or candidates. Individuals give within limits.

### FRANCE

A 2012 presidential campaign was found €466,118 over its spending cap, and its public reimbursement was refused.

*Sources: Elections Canada; French Constitutional Council, Decision 2013-156 PDR (2013).*

# PUT IT ON THE RECORD




## *EVERY LOBBYIST. EVERY MEETING. IN PUBLIC VIEW.*

Who met, who paid, and what they asked for.

### CHILE

Officials must log lobbying meetings in public registers.

### UNITED KINGDOM

The lobbying register covers consultant lobbyists only. In-house lobbyists don't register.

*Sources: OECD (2024); Boardman Review (2021).*

# YOU PICK THE SETLIST



**YOU'VE GOT ROOM FOR TWO. WHAT PLAYS?**

☐ **HOUSING**



☐ **TRANSIT**



☐ **DRAINAGE**



## *PUT REAL MONEY ON THE BALLOT.*

Let residents decide where it goes.

### BRAZIL

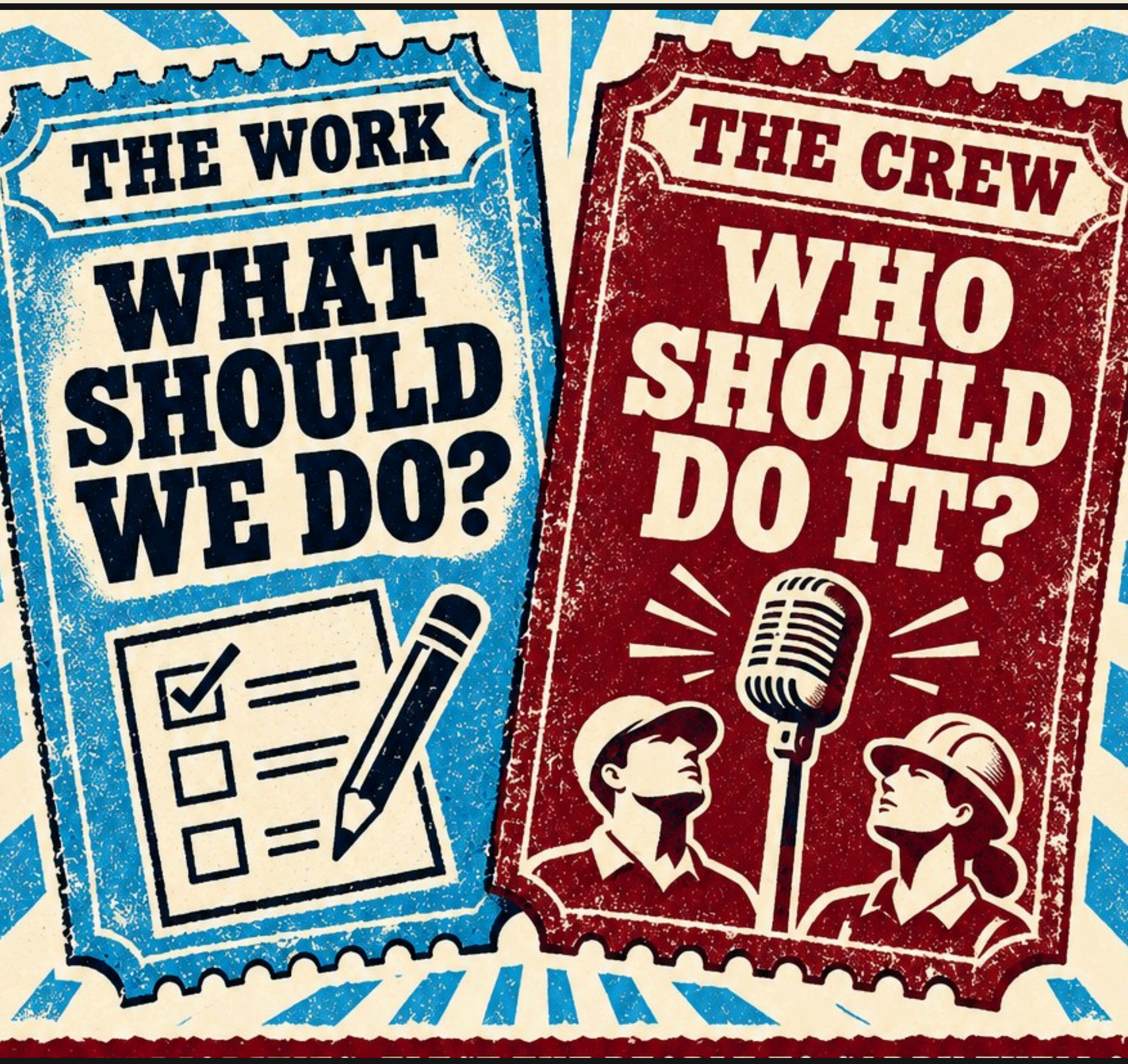
Cities with participatory budgeting shifted spending toward sanitation and health, alongside lower infant mortality.

### PORTO ALEGRE

Participatory budgeting's birthplace suspended it in 2017 after a change of government. Write it into law so it outlasts the crew.

*Sources: Gonçalves, World Development (2014); World Resources Institute (2018).*

# ONE BALLOT FOR THE WORK. ONE FOR THE CREW.




## *SET THE PRIORITIES. ELECT THE PEOPLE TO CARRY THEM OUT.*

### SWITZERLAND

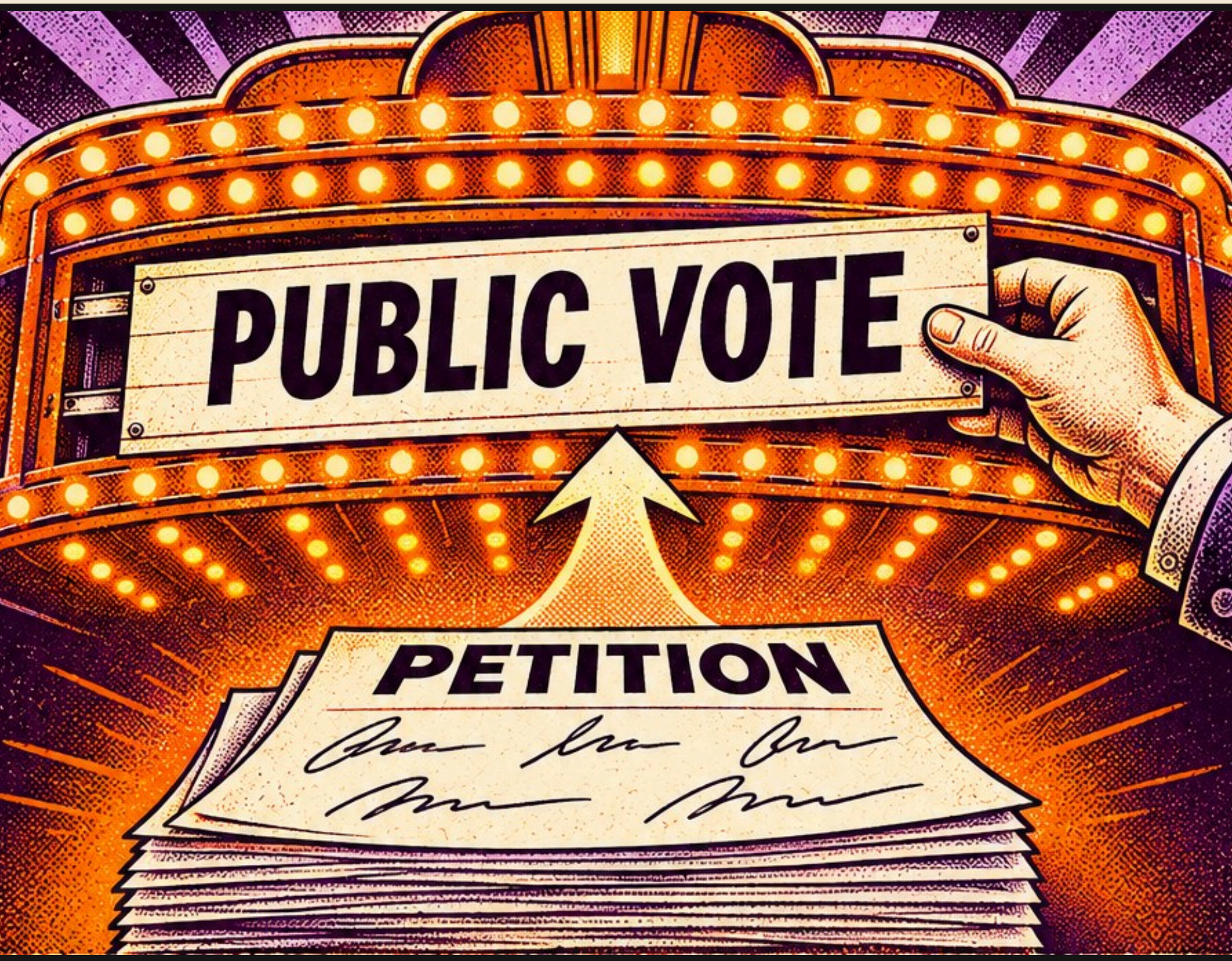
Voters approved Rail 2000 in 1987. Stage 1 was completed in 2004.

### UNITED KINGDOM

The Brexit vote set a direction. The terms still had to be negotiated.

*Sources: INFRAS (2007); House of Commons Library.*

# GET IT ON THE BILL.




## *ENOUGH SIGNATURES? REQUIRE A RECORDED VOTE.*

**Set a deadline. Publish the decision.**

### FINLAND

50,000 signatures in six months sends an initiative to Parliament, which must consider it.

### EUROPEAN UNION

Minority SafePack gathered over a million signatures. The Commission declined to act, and the EU Court of Justice upheld that in 2025.

*Sources: Parliament of Finland; Court of Justice of the EU, C-26/23 P (2025).*

# TRY IT. THEN VOTE.




## *TEST IT. COUNT IT. THEN DECIDE.*

Experience the policy before it's permanent.

### STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

About 20% less traffic across the charging boundary during the 2006 trial. A narrow majority then voted to keep it.

### FINLAND

A basic income trial found no employment effect in year one. A pilot that says no is a pilot that worked.

*Sources: Eliasson et al., Transportation Research A (2009); Finland Ministry of Social Affairs & Kela (2019).*

# EMERGENCY EXIT




## *MAKE EMERGENCY POWERS EXPIRE.*

Every emergency rule gets an end date and a vote to renew.

### UK COVID-19 INQUIRY

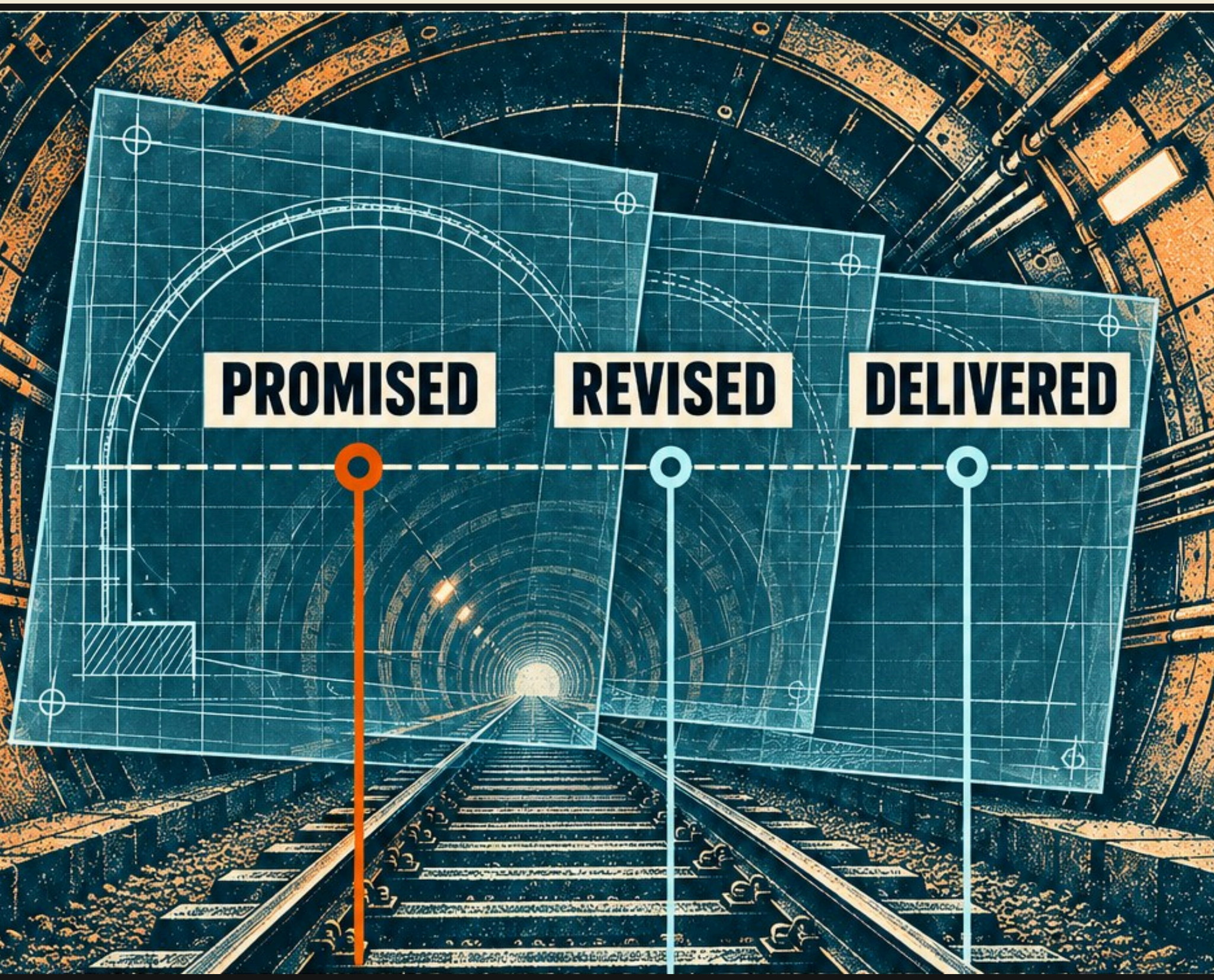
Rushed emergency regulations should carry sunset clauses, typically within two months.

### UNITED KINGDOM

The Coronavirus Act 2020 had a built-in two-year expiry and six-monthly reviews by Parliament.

*Sources: UK Covid-19 Inquiry, Module 2, Recommendation 15 (2025); UK Parliament.*

# KEEP THE ORIGINAL DATE




## *PUBLISH THE PLAN. PUBLISH THE SCORE.*

Keep every revision on the public record.

### LONDON'S CROSSRAIL

Auditors found even the 2019 revised schedule and budget were unachievable.

### CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

The council shows past results next to its new targets.

*Sources: UK National Audit Office (2021); NZ Office of the Auditor-General.*

# PUT THE MISS ON THE MIC.




## AUDIT WHAT THE NUMBERS LEAVE OUT.

Then hold the hearing. Name who's responsible. Set a deadline.

### PHOENIX VA

About 1,700 veterans waiting for care weren't on the official list. The delays drove 20+ congressional hearings in 2014.

### BRAZIL

Publishing random audits of city spending changed incumbents' reelection chances.

*Sources: VA Office of Inspector General (2014); U.S. GAO (2015); Ferraz & Finan, Quarterly Journal of Economics (2008).*

# THE BILL COMES DUE.




## *SHOW THE COST OF WAITING. VOTE IN PUBLIC.*

**Fund the standard. Require a recorded vote to defer major maintenance.**

### FLINT, MICHIGAN

Corrosion control was skipped, and oversight lapses delayed the response.

### JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

A $2.7M corrosion-control system kept failing from inconsistent upkeep, raising treatment costs.

*Sources: EPA Office of Inspector General (2018; 2024).*

# SHOW YOUR WORK.




## *EARN THE NEXT RUNG WITH VERIFIED RESULTS.*

Track record over titles.

### U.S. STATE LEGISLATURES

State senators who first served in the state house were more effective at advancing bills. Past local office alone showed no edge.

### CHINA

When promotions hinged on reported growth, local GDP figures got inflated. Verify the results.

*Sources: Hansen & Treul, Legislative Studies Quarterly (2025); Zeng & Zhou (2024).*

# NEW CREW. SAME WORK.




## *CHANGE THE LEADERSHIP. KEEP THE PLAN.*

Replace the official. Keep the mandate.

### CALIFORNIA, 2003

55.4% voted to recall the governor. The replacement won with 48.6%.

### U.S. PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITIONS

In 2009, outgoing and incoming teams ran a joint emergency exercise. In 2020, formal transition support was delayed nearly three weeks.

*Sources: California Secretary of State; NBC News (2009); Stanford Law Review Online.*

# NO PAID POLITICAL ADS



## *BAN PAID PLACEMENT ACROSS MEDIA.*

TV, radio, mail, streaming, social media.

### UNITED KINGDOM

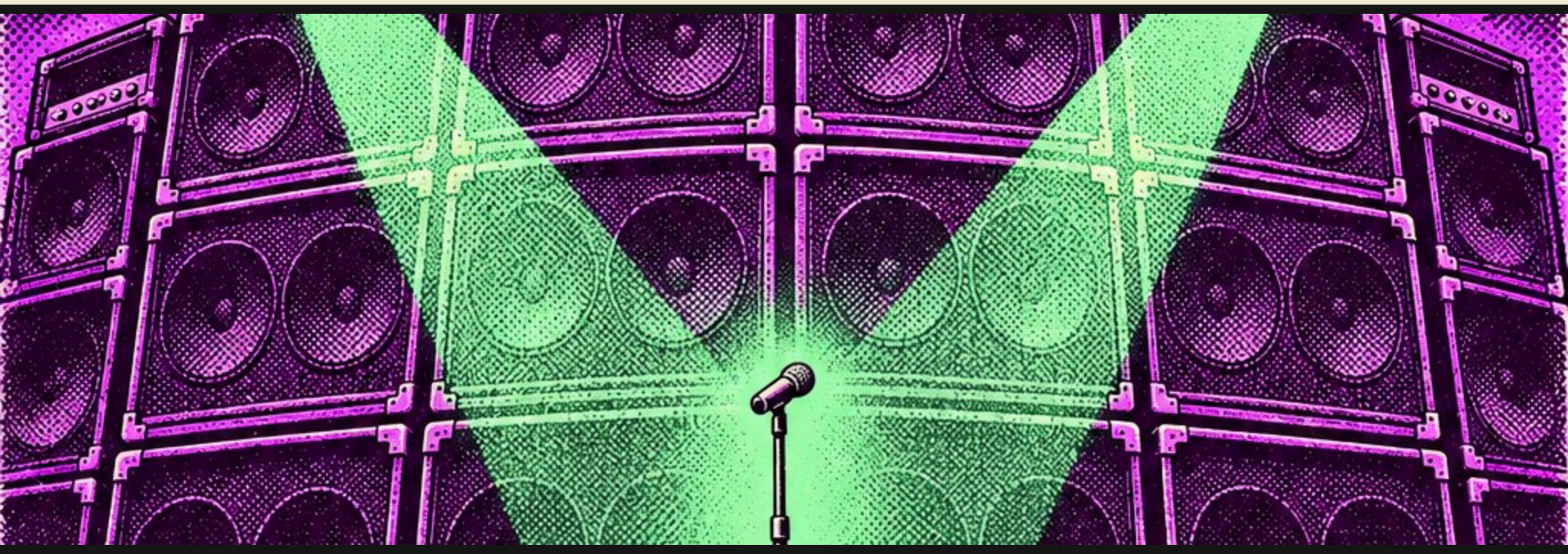
Paid political ads are banned on broadcast TV and radio.

### THE CATCH

In 2024, parties still spent £26M on leaflets and direct mail.

*Sources: UK Electoral Commission (2024).*

# THE MIC IS YOURS.



## PICK ONE POSTER. BRING IT TO YOUR NEXT PUBLIC MEETING.

Ask the question on it. Write down the answer. That's a public record.

### THE FIVE HABITS, IN ONE ENCORE

**1 OPEN THE DOORS**
Cover the cost of serving. Let every voter fund a voice.

**2 FOLLOW THE MONEY**
Cap it, disclose it, and log every meeting.

**3 LET VOTERS PICK THE WORK**
Budgets, initiatives and pilots, with a vote at the end.

**4 KEEP THE SCORE IN PUBLIC**
Original dates, audits, hearings and the true cost of waiting.

**5 CHANGE THE CREW, KEEP THE PLAN**
Recalls, handoffs and track records that carry the work forward.

*This was never a set about politicians. It's a set about the record we keep.*

MOTORBLOOM

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