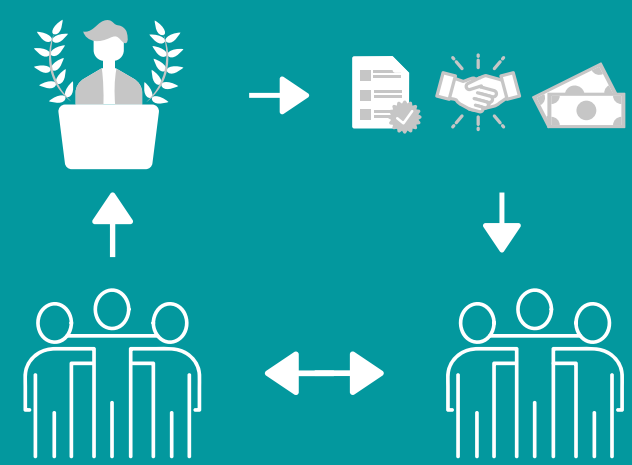# A Visual Summary of Grove

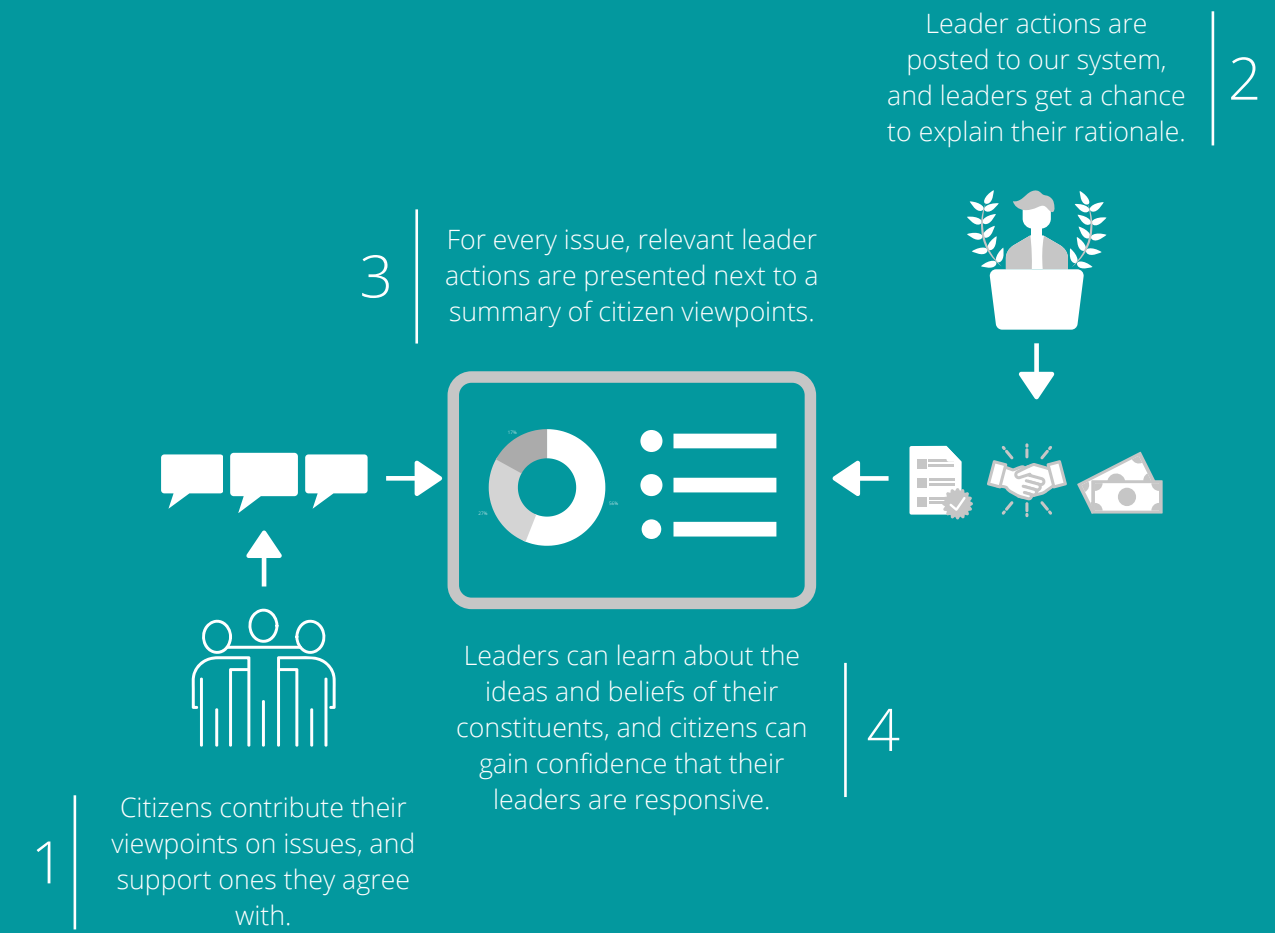## What democratic communication often looks like:

Citizens pick their favorite out of a few candidates, and the winners make whatever decisions they see fit.

What we think it *should* look like:

Citizens make informed decisions, discuss with each other and experts to generate and evaluate new policy ideas, present those ideas to their leaders, and utilize available accountability mechanisms to ensure that their leaders respond.

How we plan on facilitating it:

2 Leader actions are posted to our system, and leaders get a chance to explain their rationale.

3 For every issue, relevant leader actions are presented next to a summary of citizen viewpoints.

1 Citizens contribute their viewpoints on issues, and support ones they agree with.

4 Leaders can learn about the ideas and beliefs of their constituents, and citizens can gain confidence that their leaders are responsive.

Why we think this will work:

Citizens will have a tangibly productive outlet to express their pent-up political energy, instead of social media or protests.

Good-natured leaders will have a convenient source of information that they can use to better adapt to their constituents' beliefs.

Unresponsive leaders will be clearly revealed to the public, and their citizens can make better voting choices in the next election if they don't change.

Where to look next:

Take a look at this document for a more detailed explanation of the project.

Check out our project website.

Sign up for our mailing list, or send an email to aman.patel@usc.edu with your thoughts.

View our code on GitHub.