



Dresden.
Dresden

Actively shaping city life

Ideas for becoming involved



What you want

Dresden is dear to your heart? You want to play an active role in shaping the city's development? You'd like to exert a direct influence? Want to have a say on important topics? You'd like to contribute your knowledge, experience and interests? Want to express your opinion and offer suggestions and ideas? You want to help other people or work for specific goals and projects? If so, there are all kinds of ways for you to find out more and get active.

Everyone benefits

The City of Dresden welcomes and supports your participation. After all, the city lives from its residents' active involvement. Among other things, your volunteering work is much appreciated, as well as your participation in important topics related to city life or urban development. Municipal decision-making processes are often complex and seldom have just one proposed solution. There are opportunities to get involved almost everywhere. The sooner citizens propose ideas, and the more specific they are, the more balanced and workable the results. In the end, everyone benefits.

So get helping

Your support, your comments and even your objections are welcome. But only those who get informed and actually take action can get involved and have an influence. On one hand, that means you need to be prepared to deal with urban issues. On the other hand, it means that the city's authorities and decision-makers have to provide balanced, clearly explained information as the most important foundation for any civic participation. This is the only means of helping people understand the problem, pointing to solutions and providing reasons and background information. That is exactly what we aim to achieve, alongside effectively recording the results of civic participation and integrating them in the long term.

Ways to get involved

There are many levels on which you can become personally involved in social concerns, and many means of doing so. These extend from taking part in elections, polls or surveys, to initiatives restricted to certain times or topics, a wide variety of clubs or ways to help your neighbours, as far as long-term involvement, e.g. to get projects moving in the city, in a certain district or in an incorporated village. If you look for partners and allies to work with, that not only raises your chances of success but also makes that work more pleasurable.

have a say have an influence have a hand

Elections

Exercise your right to vote regularly! If you can, help out the Citizens' Office as an electoral clerk. Contact the elected representatives in your local constituency.

- Bundestag elections every 4 years, next in 2025, 2029
- City council elections, district and municipality elections every 5 years, next in 2024 (9 June), 2029
- Integration and Foreign Citizens' Advisory Committee elections every 5 years, next in 2024 (1 September), 2029
- State parliament elections every 5 years, next in 2024 (1 September), 2029
- European elections every 5 years, next in 2024 (9 June), 2029
- Elections for the city mayor every 7 years, next in 2029, 2036

→ www.dresden.de/wahlen

→ www.dresden.de/wahlhelfer



City, municipal and district councils

Keep up with city council issues, meetings and resolutions! Get in touch with city councillors and parties. Find out about local key topics at municipal and district council meetings; these authorities can directly fund projects. Take advantage of the city council's residents' question time, or your right to submit a petition on paper or online.

→ www.ratsinfo.dresden.de

→ www.dresden.de/livestream

→ www.dresden.de/stadtbezirke

→ www.dresden.de/ortschaften

→ www.dresden.de/amtsblatt

→ www.dresden.de/pressemitteilungen

→ www.dresden.de/newsletter

→ www.dresden.de/satzungen

→ www.dresden.de/

[einwohnerfragestunde](#)

→ www.dresden.de/e-petitionen



*We keep up
with what's
going on at the
city council!*

Mayor, deputies

There are different means of coming into personal contact with Mayor Dirk Hilbert, for example at the City Hall Open Day or at mayoral surgeries, when he visits districts and incorporated villages and during civic dialogue events. The mayor can also be contacted via Facebook, and some of the deputy mayors responsible for specific departments also hold consultations.

- www.dresden.de/oberbuergermeister
- www.facebook.com/stadt.dresden.oberbuergermeister
- www.dresden.de/beigeordnete
- www.dresden.de/offenesrathaus

Municipal voting

Your signature can have an influence on a municipal level! For example, you can support residents' proposals, which can enable your issue to be dealt with at a residents' assembly or placed on the city council's agenda. Or you and other citizens can get together to push through a referendum by means of a public petition. It is also possible to launch a citizens' recommendation process. Please note the number of signatures required for this process as given in the statutes on civic participation.

- www.dresden.de/einwohnerversammlungen
- www.dresden.de/buergerbeteiligung
- www.dresden.de/buergerbegehren
- www.dresden.de/satzungen



*I take part
in surveys!*

Polls

Take part in polls carried out by the city authorities! Whether you have been randomly selected or approached as a group, your participation is called for. It is the only way to draw usable conclusions

and gain representative results. These are then used as guidelines for the municipal authorities' work.

■ Municipal opinion poll about every 2 years, last in 2022, next in 2024

→ www.dresden.de/kbu

■ Data collection for statistics on cost of renting about every 2 years, last in 2022, next in 2024

→ www.dresden.de/mietspiegel

■ Parents polled about childcare

→ www.dresden.de/elternbefragung

Assemblies

Make the most of residents' assemblies to get informed and have a say! Along with similar public information events, they are used to introduce you to important plans and projects. Take the opportunity to pose your own questions, present your point of view or raise objections.

■ According to Section 22 of the Saxon Local Government Charter (SächsGemO), residents' assemblies must be announced at least one week in advance

→ www.dresden.de/amtsblatt

→ www.dresden.de/pressemitteilungen



Planning, building

The public must be involved in most planning and building projects! Your input is thus requested within specific notice periods – for urban development, city renovation and transport planning, municipal zoning, landscape and land-use planning, flood control measures, playground design and much more. The city administration is increasingly including various forms of civic participation in ideas competitions and pioneering projects.

→ www.dresden.de/stadtplanung → www.dresden.de/hochwasser

→ www.dresden.de/offenlagen → www.dresden.de/spielplaetze

→ www.dresden.de/verkehr → www.dresden.de/kinderbeteiligung

→ www.dresden.de/buga

Orderliness, cleanliness

Report littering, dirt and fly tipping in the city! It is only with your help that these public nuisances can be cleaned away as quickly as possible.

→ *Central service number 115*

→ *www.dresden.de/dreck-weg*

→ *www.dresden.de/maengelmelder*

Volunteering, civic involvement

Take on a volunteering position! Nowhere else are there so many possible ways to make yourself useful for the common good through the force of your own personality. Choose something that specifically suits you. Your involvement makes a difference, whether in the form of time, ideas, donations or even money. Working together, a lot can be achieved.

■ **Selected organisations**

- Clubs and associations
- Churches and foundations
- Public and private institutions
- Political parties and trade unions
- Initiatives, movements, projects
- Neighbourhood networks
- Self-help groups

I volunteer!



■ **Selected topics**

- Democracy and human rights
- Representing political and occupational interests
- Culture of remembrance
- Federal Voluntary Service (BFD)
- Youth work and education
- Volunteer fire brigade
- Rescue services and disaster control
- Churches and religion
- Parenting
- Schools and day-care centres
- Career and university advice
- Social issues and health
- Helping the elderly

- Helping refugees
- Integrating people from migrant families
- Community interpreting service
- Art and culture
- Leisure and companionship
- Helping out neighbours and local area
- Sports and exercise
- Environment and flood protection
- Protecting nature and animals
- Arbitration, victim support, helping prisoners
- Traffic safety
- Local history and conservation

→ www.dresden.de/ehrenamt

→ www.dresden.ehrensache.jetzt

→ www.dresden.de/bfd

→ www.dresden.de/selbsthilfe

→ www.dresden.de/fluechtlingshilfe

→ www.dresden.de/toleranz

→ www.ehrenamt.sachsen.de

Current opportunities to get involved

The City of Dresden regularly provides information about current ways you can get involved.

→ www.dresden.de/buergerbeteiligung

You can find the latest online participation processes organised by the City of Dresden on the Saxon government's civic participation portal.

→ www.buergerbeteiligung.sachsen.de/portal/dresden

Saxon dialogue website

This site provides information about ongoing opportunities for dialogue offered by the Saxon government and the Saxon State Agency for Civic Education (SLpB).

→ www.dialog.sachsen.de

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www.dresden.de/buergerbeteiligung