

Press Release

City of Winter Garden, Florida Receives National Voice of the People Award

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4th 2020 – [National Research Center](#) (NRC) at [Polco](#) and the [International City & County Management Association](#) (ICMA) have announced 10 Winners of the [Voice of the People \(VOP\) Awards](#) for Excellence. The Voice of the People Awards are the only national awards that honor local governments based on survey opinions and feedback from residents. The awards for Excellence recognize communities that received the highest marks from their residents in the previous year and are at the top of the cohort of [The National Community Survey™ \(The NCS\)](#) participants. Each year about 100 local governments are eligible to participate in the awards from over 500 jurisdictions nationally. Ten winning jurisdictions are then determined for awards.

City of Winter Garden's award honors and recognizes its excellence in achieving high ratings on the NCS and for its intentional, data-informed decisions around the **Natural Environment** - one of eight community facets evaluated for award consideration. Other community facets include *Community Engagement, Safety, Mobility, Built Environment, Economy, Recreation & Wellness and Education & Enrichment*.

[The National Community Survey™ \(The NCS\)](#) is a tried and trusted community survey that provides a comprehensive and accurate picture of resident perspectives on local government services, policies, and management. Results draw from the largest resident opinion database of its kind, representing well over 30 million Americans. The NCS compares local results with benchmarks compiled from surveys conducted across the U.S.

"We recognize these amazing communities that are shining examples of how to engage residents to improve quality of life and deepen trust and transparency," said Nick Mastronardi, CEO of Polco.

"During this difficult year especially, local government leaders are rolling up their sleeves and working tirelessly to guide their communities forward," said Damema Mann, Director of National Engagement for Polco. "We are honored to be able to recognize these deserving communities nationally."

The 12th annual Voice of the People Awards were presented to the **City of Winter Garden** by the [International City/County Management Association](#) (ICMA) and [National Research Center](#) (NRC) at [Polco](#) at [ICMA's digital conference: Unite](#) on September 23-26, 2020.

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Polco/National Research Center's (NRC) gold-standard suite of survey and civic engagement tools deliver insights you can rely on. Our team has decades of combined experience as government consultants and employees, survey researchers, data scientists, and communication experts. Across the nation, hundreds of local governments and other public sector entities have used our services to move their communities forward. We believe that smarter, more connected communities bring perspectives that inspire change.