



LAWMAKER

Amit Thakkar, Founder & CEO

Prior to founding LawMaker, Amit spent a decade as a political consultant running large-scale coalition building efforts, advocacy endeavors, and political campaigns. He started his career as a lobbyist and campaign strategist for Cerrell Associates and was a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs. Amit earned his bachelor's degree in Philosophy, Politics & Economics from Pomona College and his MBA from UCLA's Anderson School of Management.

Jon Brennan, CTO

Jon Brennan is CEO of Noobis, a NY-based app development firm. Brennan previously served as CEO and CTO of Improvise and as a Sr. Manager at Ingram Micro. In 2008, he founded SocialVoter, a social network focused on political discourse. He holds an MBA from Canisius College.

LawMaker Milestones:

Oct '17: LawMaker Launch

Nov '17: LM Challenge #1 with LA Councilman David Ryu

Jan '18: LM Challenge #1 results in motion before LA City Council

Jan '18: LM Challenge #2 with Congresswoman Julia Brownley

Apr '18: LM Challenge #2 results in a direct response from Rep. Brownley to LM users about *Citizens United*.

Contact LawMaker

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WHAT IS LAWMAKER: LawMaker is the lobby for the rest of us – an advocacy tool for Americans who don't have a lobbyist advocating for them in their government. LawMaker is a platform that allows Americans to (1) crowdsource ideas for new laws, (2) build voter coalitions, and (3) engage politicians to advocate for change.

A 2014 Princeton study found, *"the preferences of the average American appear to have only a miniscule, near-zero, statistically non-significant impact, upon public policy."* Dissatisfaction with the government rose from 29% to 74% since 2002. In the same time, [voter communications to politicians increased by 400%](#). Voters want to be heard, & feel a growing discontent toward a government that won't listen.

THE SOLUTION: LawMaker connects Americans with their elected officials.

Step 1. Voters Propose Policies: Users propose policy ideas to improve their city, county, state, or nation.

Step 2. Voters Engaging Voters: Facebook has taught us the social power of "authentic" shares. By sharing their policies to earn support, our users invite others to vote and collaborate on authentic policies, and build coalitions for ideas that are specifically relevant to their lives and the concerns of their communities.

Step 3. Two-Way Communication: Voters use LawMaker to leverage their coalitions to directly engage their politicians to start a productive policy dialogue.

LOS ANGELES HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVE: LawMaker is launching a project for LA residents & elected officials to collaboratively discuss solutions for homelessness & build grassroots political support for tangible homelessness services.

The Dialogue: This yearlong discussion will be divided into phases to: (1) identify problems, (2) propose solutions, (3) analyze risks, and (4) develop & evaluate specific policy solutions.

- The process will be open to the public both on and offline to maximize participation and transparency as stakeholders and politicians work to develop programs and build support to effectively help the homeless.
- By bringing LA residents, homelessness leaders, and elected officials together to answer one question: ["What programs in your neighborhood can you support to help the homeless?"](#) LawMaker intends to build political support for tangible programs that LA government can use to implement policy in the next 10 years.

The Leadership Board: To guide this public conversation to a productive resolution, LawMaker will convene a Leadership Board of six elected officials, six leaders from the homeless service sector, and six LA civic leaders.

- This board will guide the phases of the conversation and provide feedback to stakeholders at regular intervals. For example, problems identified in Phase 1's open call for problem statements, will then be segmented by the Board into distinct verticals to be addressed in Phase 2, such as: affordable housing, homelessness prevention, mental health services, veterans programs, etc.
- The Board will also consolidate community feedback into draft proposals to be evaluated and amended throughout the public dialogue.

Project Calendar:

- **Sept-Dec 2018:** Planning & Platform Development with Leadership Board
- **Jan-Feb 2019:** Phase 1 – Open Call for Problem Statements
- **Mar 2019:** Board Review & Response
- **Apr-May 2019:** Phase 2 – Solution Ideation
- **Jun 2019:** Board Review & Response
- **Jul-Aug 2019:** Phase 3 – Risk Assessment
- **Sept-Oct 2019:** Board Review & Response (including detailed policy proposals)
- **Nov 2019-Jan 2020:** Phase 4 – Final Policy Discussions & Public Rankings
- **Feb 2020:** Conclusion