

# August Progress Report

For the Democracy Straight Up Project

In fulfillment of the Full-Time Founder Execution plan, July 1st 2026 to January 1st, 2027.

Dear Stakeholders,

August isn't over yet, and it hasn't just been about creating more ideas and refining the presentation: a very credible amount of concrete infrastructure has been put in place.

- **Completed over 140 pages of written material** across 8 major publications
  - **Completed the 16-page position paper:** [Straight-Up Will Be Good for Wealth](#), *Legislative Sovereignty, Productive Markets, and the Separation of Private Wealth from Public Power*
  - **Completed the 26-page argument:** [The Mortality Burden of the Legacy System](#): *Political determinants of health, chronic powerlessness, preventable policy failure, corruption, war, and conditional comparative predictions about harm reduction*
  - **Completed the 32-page analysis:** [Articulated Democracy as Distributed Computation](#): *Network Structure, Signal Fidelity, Error Correction, and the Production of Collective Agency*
  - **Wrote the 6-page reassuring essay for the website:** [Ten Big, Soft, Fluffy Pillows](#): *Why voter sovereignty is less scary than it sounds*
  - **Wrote the 23-page polemical essay in democratic political theory:** [The Courage to Be Sovereign](#) *Abuse, Love, and the Emotional Transition from Political Helplessness to Voter Sovereignty*
  - **Wrote the 8-page inspirational position paper:** [A Sprint, Not a Marathon](#): *Why We Do Not Have to Fix Human Nature Before We Build Self-Government*
  - **Wrote the 7-page resource paper:** [Election without 'Elections'](#): *Why legacy elections transfer power — and how Straight-Up can use the same legal architecture to delegate responsibility without surrendering sovereignty*
  - **Penned the 5-page position paper:** [The Voters Are Ready](#): *Why Democracy Does Not Have to Wait for Better Citizens*
  - **[“Oligarchy...Still?”](#)** *Private Wealth, Public Power, and 150 Years of Failed Separation* is a twenty-page investigation into the question, “Has 150 of social progress changed the fundamental structure of who owns the government?” Spoiler alert: it hasn't!
- **Considerable website implementation/debugging work:** We have a mailing list! [Sign up!](#) The homepage now contains concrete action items the user can pursue to start pushing towards direct democracy in America: See [That Thing You Do!](#) And check out the spiffy countdown timer [on the homepage](#), counting down the days until January 3rd, 2029, when the first Straight-Up Rep will be sworn into congress.
- **Created and deployed Ask Tiffany:** Using Cloudflare and OpenAI, and coding in Java Script, [Ask Tiffany](#) was crafted as an AI knowledge assistant trained to help visitors explore the ideas, research, and architecture of Straight-Up Democracy.
- **Created a Ten-Week Course:** [Proving Democracy](#): *Power, Institutions, and the Search for Self-Government* which traces how the legacy system came to be, develops an

alternative explanation for its persistent dysfunction, and builds from democratic first principles toward a testable institutional model of recursive direct democracy—culminating in the Straight-Up Philosophy, System, Plan, and Project and the hypothesis that genuine self-government may constitute a resilient political attractor state.

- **Created and Launched Merchandising Page:** Using Squarespace's native Store functions, combined with Printful and Canva, produced and published six pieces of merch for Straight-Uppers to enjoy. [Check out the Merch!](#) Buy something!
  - Also created a plush toy based on the logo and made it available for pre-orders on the Merch page.
- **Set up Google Nonprofits** allowing us a domain email address, free discounts
- **Created THE BLITZ WATCHLIST** — [Social Outreach Targets. v1.0.](#) Starting in the month of September, the project will be going forth boldly with a targeted social media campaign designed to increase metrics like allies and conversions. And funding! The Blitz is an AI assisted, proactive outreach system designed to target organizations and thinkers, identify live conversations, rank opportunities A/B/C, and respond where DSUp has a natural intellectual opening.
- **Created The Straight-Up Commons**, a discussion group on the [Discourse platform](#), for all things related to DSUp. Check out [The Straight-Up Commons!](#)
  - Searched for the 'right fit' platform (rejecting alternatives like, Slack and Reddit) a very promising landing place was found, not just for discussions about Straight-Up Democracy, but also for Circles, Links and Caucuses to hold their discussions in the near future.
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