SHORT ELECTORAL PROGRAMME - OFFENBACH 2026

Offenbach at heart, Europe in mind.

Who is Volt – Why are we participating in local elections and why should you care as a European citizen?

Why should you care? **If you're an European citizen living in Offenbach, you can cast your vote on the 15th of March 2026.** As an European citizen not only do you have the right, but also the duty to participate in the local political life of Offenbach and Volt is the party for you as our main goal is exactly that, to have Europeans come politically together to form a better EU, an EU that starts in Offenbach.

Volt is a pan-European movement and political party. We stand for pragmatic solutions, transparent politics, and constructive cooperation across party lines. Our core idea is simple: what works well in European municipalities, we put into practice in Offenbach adapted to local needs. Modern, approachable, digital.

Why are we running? Because local politics has an impact where people actually live. We want to make visible what has already been achieved in Offenbach and continue to develop it in a targeted way: better connectivity, faster administration, a strong economy, and vibrant neighborhoods. Instead of buzzwords, we focus on measurable goals, clear responsibilities, and open participation — together with the city administration, associations, businesses, and you.

Our promises:

- **Positive & solution-oriented:** We respect what has already been achieved and put forward proposals that help immediately.
- **Practical & measurable:** Small pilot projects, clear timelines, transparent budgets.
- **Digital & citizen-focused:** Services that work, from the app to the service counter.
- **European & local at the same time:** Proven ideas from across Europe, implemented concretely for Offenbach.

In short: Volt is running to make everyday life in Offenbach easier, for all generations: with better connectivity, an administration that works quickly, more life in local neighborhoods, and more opportunities for jobs and training right here in the city. We invite everyone to get involved: **doing instead of complaining** for an Offenbach that connects and inspires.

TOGETHER, NOT ALONE — NO FUTURE WITHOUT EDUCATION

Offenbach is strong when people meet, participate, and learn from each other. Volt wants to make this strength visible in schools, neighborhoods, and cultural spaces. We want to open new pathways against loneliness and genuine participation: volunteering, inclusion, low-threshold educational and health services. This creates a network that supports everyone; young and old, long-time residents and newcomers.

Education that works

Volt ensures that missed classes no longer lead to chaos. With a centralized, digital substitution platform, schools are connected, teachers are relieved, and students receive reliable education. Out-of-school learning locations such as museums,

libraries, environmental centers, and makerspaces are fully integrated into the curriculum, modernly equipped, and linked into the city's broader network.

Lifelong learning for everyone

Volt wants all citizens to have access to education regardless of age, background, or social status. Adult education centers, family education facilities, libraries, and learning hubs are supported, digital offerings are expanded, and practical partnerships with companies are created. This produces spaces for exchange, creativity, and intergenerational learning.

Inclusion and integration

Offenbach is strong when people meet and participate. To make participation possible, we make engagement barrier-free and multilingual (including in plain text), offer on-site support, and provide formats that fit everyday life in neighborhoods, schools, and senior centers, and when needed, through initiatives that reach people directly.

To ensure ideas don't fade, we rely on clear structures: contact points, citizens' councils, and citizen budgets with transparent feedback. To combat loneliness, we strengthen meeting places as well as low-threshold educational and health services in the neighborhood for all ages, long-time residents, and newcomers.

Culture, encounters, and volunteering

Volt brings culture and civic engagement to life: safe, barrier-free events in every city district, support for clubs, choirs, e-sports teams, and initiatives. Buddy and mentorship programs connect newcomers, seniors, and people living alone, making volunteering visible and appealing. This fosters community and participation in everyday life.

Digital and future-oriented

Volt uses digital solutions to make services clear and accessible: educational portals, online course bookings, and networking between schools, cultural institutions, and volunteers. At the same time, personal contact points remain, no one is left behind.

Our vision

Volt wants a city where education, culture, and engagement come together, where meeting others is easy and participation is simple. **TOGETHER, NOT ALONE** is our

guiding principle for a lively, inclusive, and future-ready Offenbach — with concrete measures, practical solutions, and ideas proven across Europe.

LIFE, NOT EMPTINESS

- **Encounters, not concrete**
  Offenbach needs spaces where city life happens. With **Station Mitte** in the former Kaufhof building, we are creating an open space for education, culture, and encounters for everyone: accessible, digital, and diverse. A place that makes learning, culture, and community visible right in the heart of the city.
- **Revitalizing the city center — together**
  Wilhelmsplatz, Marktplatz, and the area around the train station will become vibrant urban spaces: with more greenery, seating, cultural offerings, pop-ups, and temporary uses of vacant shops. We strengthen local businesses, creative initiatives, and evening culture with events, music, and meeting spaces, for a city center that invites people to stay.
- **Working where life happens**
  Municipal co-working spaces bring work, exchange, and innovation into the neighborhoods. Affordable, accessible, and open to students, freelancers, associations, and start-ups. Empty spaces become opportunities for the future.

Offenbach together

Safe, clean, and inclusive public spaces are created through collaboration, prevention, and participation. This builds a sense of belonging making Offenbach a city where everyone feels at home.

Offenbach connected; digital & simple

An Offenbach app to announce local events, shops, report trash and get to know local services: what's complicated today becomes easy tomorrow. App instead of bureaucracy for participation, transparency, and a city that works.

DOING INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING

Offenbach can do more. Volt wants to bring speed, clarity, and concrete solutions for business, trade, and urban development. We want that permits are issued quickly, responsibilities are clear, and companies and founders have direct contacts. **One-stop agency, co-working spaces, fiber/5G, and networking events** make Offenbach an attractive location for start-ups, small and medium-sized businesses, and service providers.

- **Stable, transparent finances for Offenbach**
  The city's finances are under pressure; rising expenditures meet limited revenues. Volt wants Offenbach to act strategically, sustainably, and with measurable impact: **zero-based budgeting, digital citizen portals, participatory budgeting, and open-budget platforms** ensure decisions are transparent and understandable. This way, investments in **education, mobility, climate protection, digitalization, and infrastructure** are prioritized instead of blindly rolling over the budget year after year.

- **Shaping the future, seizing opportunities**
  Volt wants that economic dynamism, financial stability, and quality of life work hand in hand. Investments in city life, infrastructure, and climate protection attract talent, skilled workers, and businesses creating a cycle of **innovation, prosperity, and community cohesion**. Offenbach becomes economically strong, vibrant, and sustainable with every decision having real impact for all citizens.

- **Volt want to make Offenbach an innovation hub**
  Founders and entrepreneurs should have easy access to advice, funding, and workspace. We rely on **one-stop shops, makerspaces, and microcredit funds** helping start-ups launch quickly, grow, and strengthen the city. Further Collaborations with universities to bring research directly into practical application.

- **Future-proof economic development**
  Sustainability, digitalization, and social responsibility are not optional, they are mandatory. Funding is directed specifically to companies that operate **climate-neutrally and socially responsibly**. Digital portals, cluster

strategies, and networking strengthen business settlement and regional innovation capacity.

LIVING, NOT SURVIVING

- **Volt wants to make housing affordable.**
  We focus on **infill development, attic conversions, and repurposing suitable office space**. This creates new apartments without sealing additional land.

- **Municipal land for the common good**
  City-owned building plots should be primarily leased via **ground leases** to social housing companies, cooperatives, and municipal projects. For projects with particularly strong social value, the ground rent should be reduced.

- **Faster, digital, more efficient**
  Volt wants to have approval processes be **digitalized**, planning steps parallelized, and development plans prioritized, so that new housing can be built more quickly.

- **Stop speculation, protect tenants**
  Volt fights against artificial vacancies, safeguards tenant rights, and enables socially responsible energy-efficient renovations.

- **Use existing housing intelligently**
  Through **relocation chain management** and incentives for households moving to smaller apartments, existing housing is used optimally without displacing people from their neighborhoods.

- **Volt wants a livable Offenbach**
  Affordable, climate-friendly, and social housing is not a luxury, it is the foundation for a city where everyone can live well.

ZUKUNFT ⚙ MADE IN EUROPE

APP OVER PAPERWORK

Offenbach faces major challenges: long waiting times, complicated forms, and confusing processes make everyday life difficult. Volt wants to make city administration simpler, more understandable, and accessible.

We want that applications, appointments, and notifications can be handled easily, digitally, multilingual, and barrier-free. At the same time, personal support remains: on-site advice, easy-to-use terminals, and digital guides help at every step, so no one is left behind.

Volt wants digital solutions to be usable

Digital services are applied where they truly add value: waste reports, damage reports, and citizen services are consolidated, clear, and transparent. Volt strengthens digital skills and enables participation for everyone regardless of age or technical experience.

Volt wants digital security and sovereignty

Offenbach should take advantage of digital opportunities without taking risks. We rely on European software, clear standards, and regular training for administrative staff. This keeps data protected, processes reliable, and the city resilient to cyberattacks.

Volt wants to enable participation

Budgets, finances, and city decisions should be understandable and participatory. Volt promotes participatory budgeting and open-budget platforms, allowing citizens to submit proposals, set priorities, and help make decisions. Transparency and involvement make administration tangible and efficient.

Volt plans sustainably for the future

Investments, climate protection, Industry 4.0, and digitalization require long-term planning. We ensure that resources are used wisely, funding is targeted, and businesses, administration, and citizens work together more effectively. Step by step, administration becomes modern, secure, and easier for everyone to use.

BETTER CLIMATE, NOT HOT AIR

- **Climate-neutral by 2035**
  Volt is committed to bold, transparent decisions to make Offenbach **climate-neutral by 2035**. This means **clear targets, rapid implementation, and real citizen participation**.

- **Green & resilient**
  More green spaces, **Tiny Forests, green roofs, de-sealing, and climate-resilient urban planning** protect against heat, heavy rain, and extreme weather events. **Sponge city concepts, summer streets, and public drinking fountains** enhance quality of life and health.

- **Harnessing renewable energy consistently**
  Solar panels on roofs and façades, municipal heat planning, and waste-heat networks from industry, data centers, and thermal waste treatment make Offenbach independent from fossil fuels.

- **Geothermal energy as an opportunity**
  Stable, base-load heat from underground reduces emissions, lowers energy costs, and strengthens local economic value. Volt links **geothermal energy with circular economy, clean logistics, and renewable electricity**.

- **Engaging citizens**
  Energy cooperatives, project participation, transparent progress tracking, and fair district heating prices protect consumers and build trust.

- **Use resources smartly**
  Avoid, separate, and recycle waste to reduce single-use products and promote repair initiatives, building a **circular, sustainable city**.

- **Community gardens & urban gardening**
  Green spaces for everyone: fostering **encounters, education, integration, and sustainable nutrition to** connect neighborhoods and create vibrant, green spaces.

- **Volt wants a carbon neutral Offenbach**
  Energy, industry, nature, and urban planning work together, **ecologically, economically, and socially strong**.

Was that enough? If not you can read our entire programme here (in German only)

This document is meant to be a 10 minute read, if you have more specific questions send them to:
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