Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Web Use Policy

The Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) social media channels provide an opportunity for disseminating information about the Memphis Urban Area MPO and transportation related plans, programs, and activities. Comments and opinions expressed by users of social media channels including Facebook®, Instagram®, Twitter®, LinkedIn®, and YouTube®, are individual opinions and do not reflect the opinions of the Memphis MPO or its employees. All comments are reviewed and screened in accordance with the Memphis Urban Area MPO social media use policy referenced below. All users should submit their questions, comments, or concerns in a respectful manner in accordance with this policy.

External User Guidelines

1. We do not allow graphic, obscene, explicit, racial or otherwise discriminatory comments or submissions, nor do we allow comments that are abusive, hateful or intended to defame anyone or any organization;
2. We do not allow solicitations or advertisements. This includes promotion or endorsement of any financial, commercial or non-governmental agency. Similarly, we do not allow attempts to defame or defraud any financial, commercial or non-governmental agency;
3. We do not allow comments that suggest or encourage illegal activity;
4. MPO social media channels are not open to comments promoting or opposing any person campaigning for election to a political office or promoting or opposing any ballot proposition;
5. All MPO social media authors and public commentators shall be clearly identified. Anonymous blog postings shall not be allowed. Personal responsibility for comments is assumed, (username & any information provided);
6. We review all comments and reserve the right to discard messages containing inappropriate content;
7. Appearance of external links does not constitute any official endorsement on behalf of the Memphis Urban Area MPO.

Comments will not be edited by the Memphis Urban Area MPO. However, only comments that comply with the Memphis Urban Area MPO use policy will be approved. The use of vulgar, offensive, defamatory (personal attacks), threatening or harassing language is prohibited, and comments or user accounts therein are subject to removal.

Any comments on MPO content should be relevant to subjects/areas that the MPO oversees, or the subject of the content shared. MPO social media channels are not the proper forum to express opinions or beliefs that are not directly related to subjects/areas in which the MPO oversees. The MPO encourages users to provide input, but input must be relevant and constructive. The MPO reserves the right to make editorial decisions regarding submitted comments, including but not limited to removal of comments.

Communications made through messaging systems within social media channels will in no way constitute a legal or official notice or comment to the Memphis Urban Area MPO (or any official

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or employee of the Memphis Urban Area MPO) for any purpose. For example, a post, comment, Tweet, or any other similar message that asks the Memphis Urban Area MPO to provide public records will not be considered a public records request.

Further, official comments on MPO plans, programs, and other activities shall be submitted in writing through traditional means, such as a public comment card, email, or certified mail. Inquiries specific to a Memphis Urban Area MPO plan, program, or activity should be submitted directly to the MPO's Administrator, Ms. Pragati Srivastava at Pragati.Srivastava@memphistn.gov.

As social media is a fast-evolving means of public interface, this policy statement is subject to modification at any time to ensure its continued use is consistent with its intended purpose. Questions or concerns regarding the Memphis Urban Area MPO's presence in various social media channels should be directed to the MPO's Administrator, Ms. Pragati Srivastava at Pragati.Srivastava@memphistn.gov.

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