



Allentown City Council
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Social Media Policy & Disclaimer

Official Social Media Channels

A list of official City of Allentown online channels can be found on the [Social Media Page](#). The City of Allentown is not responsible for non-official pages or content generated by users on those platforms.

The following are Allentown City Council's official social media accounts:

Facebook

- [Allentown City Council](#)

Instagram

- [Allentown City Council](#)

Community Events & Third-Party Posting Policy

Allentown City Council may, at its discretion, share community events, public announcements, and informational materials that are relevant to Allentown residents and serve a community or public interest. To be considered for publication, submissions should meet the following guidelines:

- Events and announcements should have a clear connection to the Allentown community or provide information or resources of interest to City residents.
- Materials must be appropriate for public distribution and may not contain threats, obscenity, unlawful discriminatory content, or other material prohibited by applicable law.
- Submissions should include accurate event details, including the date, time, location, organizer, and contact information, when applicable.
- Materials primarily intended to promote political candidates, election campaigns, commercial products or services, or private financial interests generally will not be considered.
- City Council reserves the right to determine which submissions align with the purpose and available capacity of its official communication channels.

Allentown City Council is not obligated to publish every community event or announcement that meets the guidelines outlined above. Posting decisions may be based on relevance to the community, staff availability, scheduling, timing, and competing Council communications. Final decisions regarding publication remain at the discretion of City Council leadership and the City Clerk's Office, consistent with this policy.

The publication or sharing of community events, announcements, or third-party materials does not constitute an official endorsement by Allentown City Council, its members, or the City of Allentown.

*City Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.
Meeting schedules, agendas, and additional information can be found at www.allentownpa.gov/citycouncil.
Follow Allentown City Council on Facebook and Instagram @allentowncitycouncil for updates and announcements.*

Links

Allentown City Council sometimes posts links to other public and/or private organizations on social media. A link does not constitute an endorsement of content, viewpoint, policies, products, or services of that web site. Once a user clicks a link to another website not maintained by the City of Allentown, the user is subject to the terms and conditions of that website.

User-Generated Content

Allentown City Council monitors its government social media pages but is not responsible for content generated by users on those platforms. Comments and other content posted on those platforms may be subject to public disclosure.

Intellectual Property

The City of Allentown does not claim ownership of content users submit or make available on our social media pages. We only claim rights in what we write, post, or otherwise share.

Comment Policy

Comments are currently disabled on Allentown City Council's official Facebook page. Public comments are permitted on Council's official Instagram page. Allentown City Council welcomes public engagement and encourages residents to share their perspectives on matters of community interest. Comments should remain relevant to the subject of the post, and participants are encouraged to engage respectfully. Comments on Council's official social media accounts may be moderated in accordance with this policy and applicable law. The City will not remove comments solely because they express criticism of City Council, City officials, or City policies.

We review the comments on a regular basis and reserve the right to delete comments that contain the following:

- Profane and/or vulgar content;
- Sexually suggestive or harassing content;
- Obscene content;
- Nudity in a participant's profile picture;
- Threats of physical or bodily harm;
- Defamatory statements;
- Disparaging language or hate speech targeting an individual's race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, AIDS or HIV status, or disability;
- Commercial content promoting or soliciting service or products;
- Content promoting political organizations;
- Name-calling and/or personal attacks;
- Spam, such as the same comment posted repeatedly;
- Personally identifying, sensitive and/or private information;
- Language or content suggesting or encouraging illegal activity;
- Information that could reasonably compromise public safety; and
- Other content that the City deems inappropriate.

It is the City's understanding that if a comment is deleted because it violates the City's Social Media Policy, all of the replies to that comment may get deleted. If there is something you want said, you may want to make it as a standalone comment rather than a reply to a comment.

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Contacting City Council

Social media is not an official channel for submitting requests or formal communications to Allentown City Council. While Council staff may occasionally respond to questions and comments through social media, these accounts are not monitored 24 hours a day. Residents seeking to contact City Council are encouraged to email citycouncil@allentownpa.gov or use the contact information provided on the City's official website.

Terms and Conditions

The City of Allentown's government social media pages are located within platforms such as Facebook and Instagram that have their own terms of services, privacy policies, and other rules to which users are subject when users visit those pages.

Communications posted on our social media pages will not be construed as satisfying requirements for legal notice or service, shall not be considered official public comment, and shall not be construed as an official request for records pursuant to the Right-to-Know Law.

We reserve the right to modify this policy at any time. Continued use of our social media pages following the posting of any modification signifies acceptance of such modification.