

## **Social Media User Agreement**

**Effective Date: May 1, 2025**

Official City of Dunedin, Florida (the “City”) social media platforms are limited public forums used to communicate information to the City’s residents about government matters, subject to page rules and user agreement policies. Each platform welcomes family-friendly comments and posts. The City’s social media platforms include any website or application that enables users to create and share content, or participate in social networking. Social media platforms include, but are not limited to

1. Social networking (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn, Nextdoor)
2. Microblogging (e.g., X)
3. Photo sharing (e.g., Instagram, Flickr, Pinterest)
4. Video sharing (e.g., YouTube, Facebook Live, Instagram Reels/Stories)

Users who submit comments to any City social media platform acknowledge that they have read, understand, and agree to this Social Media User Agreement by virtue of such use.

The purpose of the City’s social media platforms is limited to presenting matters of public interest in the City of Dunedin, Florida concerning the City of Dunedin’s programs, events, news stories, photos, videos and matters of emergency management and public safety. The City encourages users to engage and comment, but please note that these platforms are not a traditional public forum and the City will moderate content that does not meet the scope of this limited public forum, which may include the removal of content.

Other laws, ordinance, and policies may also apply to the City’s social media platforms and this Social Media User Agreement should not be interpreted to conflict with any of those laws, ordinances and policies, including requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The City strives to post accurate and relevant content, but does not guarantee the accuracy of any information posted on this site and assumes no liability for damages resulting from reliance on any inaccuracies and does not warrant that social media sites will be uninterrupted, permanent, or error free. Please note that the posts and comments expressed on this platform do not reflect the opinions and position of the City government or its officers and employees.

The City may provide links to other social media sites and outside websites. If a user follows the link to another page or site, the City’s policies no longer apply and the user become subject to the policies of that page or site. The City is not responsible for any content that appears on outside links or sites not maintained by the City.

### **Public Records Notice**

In accordance with Florida law, specifically Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, all content posted on the City of Dunedin’s social media platforms is subject to public records laws.

There is no reasonable expectation of privacy associated for any content posted on a City social media site. By engaging with the City's social media platforms, including liking, following, commenting, or messaging, users' information and communications may be considered public record. The City may be required to retain this information per the State of Florida's retention schedule.

All content and comments posted to official City social media platforms are subject to Florida Government in Sunshine Laws. By interacting with any official City social media platforms, users acknowledge that this such platform a limited public forum and acknowledge that their comments are subject to this Social Media User Agreement and Communications and/or requests made through the City social media platforms in no way constitute a legal or official notice. A post or comment on a City of Dunedin social media site requesting public records will not be considered a public records request. All public records requests must be requested in accordance with the [Florida Government in the Sunshine Laws](#). For public records requests: <https://www.dunedin.gov/Your-Government/City-Clerk> To contact the City Commission: <https://www.dunedin.gov/Your-Government/Mayor-and-Commission>

## **Content Moderation**

Comments or posts made by users to any official City of Dunedin, Florida social media pages will be monitored and while they will not be removed based on their opinion or viewpoint, the City reserves the right to remove comments that include:

1. Comments unrelated to the purpose and topical scope of the original post
2. Obscene, indecent, or profane language. Profanity is defined as language that includes cursing, swearing, or expressions that, given the circumstances and manner of use, would clearly offend a reasonable person's sense of decency. This may include racial, social and ethical slurs
3. Sexual content or links to sexual content
4. Personal identifying information, sensitive personal information that if released violates federal or state law, and/or HIPPA protected information
5. Incitement to imminent lawless actions
6. Fighting words, threatening words, words tending to cause a breach of the peace, and/or speech that threatens harm.
7. Fraud and false information
8. Defamation, libel, and/or slander
9. Solicitations to commit, or speech integral to, criminal conduct, and/or the promotion of illegal activity
10. Information that could reasonably compromise public safety

11. Promotion or advertisement in favor of, or in opposition to a political campaign or, political candidate, political organization, or ballot proposition, unless the post being commented under is directly about such topic
12. Apparent spam, including identical or similar comments made by one or multiple accounts
13. Content posted by automatic software programs (i.e., "bots")
14. Information which may interfere or compromise current investigations, police tactics, and/or the safety of police staff and officers
15. Copyrighted material (if posted without the copyright holder's consent)
16. The solicitation, promotion or endorsement of specific commercial services, products or entities
17. Content that promotes discrimination on the basis of a protected class

The City may take steps to remove a comment if it falls within one of the foregoing categories. The City may temporarily ban the accounts of individuals who repeatedly violate this policy from participating on the City's social media platforms for a period of up to one year. If an individual who is banned makes new accounts to circumvent such ban, the City may ban such new accounts.

Because various laws exist that create liability for various actions, including but without limitation defamation, invasion of privacy, false light, breach of contract, procurement violations, violations of due process among many potential areas of exposure for which the City accepts no responsibility based on the actions of others or for creating this social media site. Users, for themselves, successors and assigns, release and hold harmless and agree to indemnify the City, including its officers and employees, from any and all actions, claims, liabilities and damages of whatever kind and nature arising out of or in connection with my use of the City social media accounts. Nothing contained in this Social Media User Agreement, and specifically this provision requiring users to indemnify the City, is intended to nor shall it be construed as an additional waiver of sovereign immunity by City beyond the City's expressed written contractual obligations contained within this contract, nor shall it be construed as a waiver of any defenses or limitations to any claims, including those based on the doctrine of sovereign immunity or section 768.28, Florida Statutes.

City of Dunedin, Florida social media platforms are not monitored for emergency communication. To report an emergency, please call 9-1-1.