



How digital tools could strengthen democracy, promote gender equality and gender-equal urban planning?

By Anna Melenchuk

Some public transport in Ukraine





VOTE



[Петиції з відповідями](#) → Вимагаємо відмовитись від маршруток та перейти на електротранспорт і зручні автобуси!

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ТРАНСПОРТ ТА ДОРОГИ

Функціонал маршруток не справляється з пасажиропотоком сучасного міста Львова: вони переповнені, брудні та зрештою небезпечні для життя. Задля збільшення прибутку водії переповнюють маршрутні таксі людьми, які змушені подекуди годинами стояти в жахливих умовах.

У зв'язку з цим мешканці міста Львова **ВИМАГАЮТЬ**:

1) Разом з експертами з транспортного планування, мешканцями міста та приватними перевізниками провести транспортне моделювання міста Львова та розробити дворічний план повної відмови міста від маршрутних таксі з подальшим переходом на тролейбуси, електроавтобуси та автобуси з більшою пасажиромісткістю, які курсуватимуть за чітко визначеним графіком.



Підписів зібрано

Потрібно

Поширити у соціальних мережах:

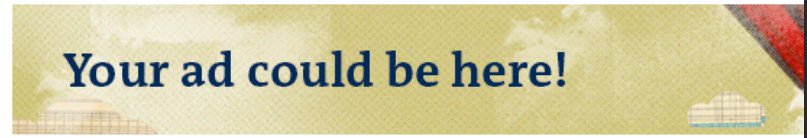
 Поширити 389

 Твіт

Львівська міськрада вирішила повністю відмовитися від маршруток

21:52, 22 березня 2018 **ТРАНСПОРТ** 4066 0

ГОЛОВНА / ПОЛІТИКА Й СУСПІЛЬСТВО / УКРАЇНА



УКРАЇНА

Історичне рішення міської ради Львова позбутись маршруток



Відмовитись від тісних, брудних маршруток. Депутати, утім, просять не поспішати. Чи надихне це містян?

22 січня 2020, Київ 16:58
новини | події
22 березня 2018, 19:42

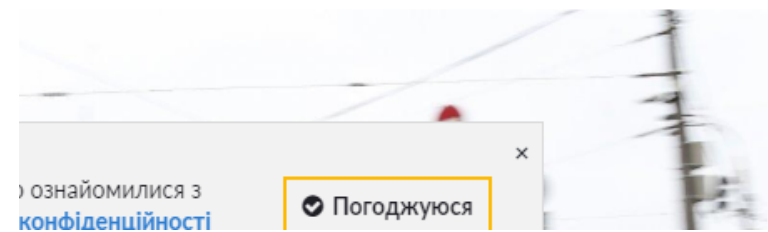
Львівська міськрада підтримала відмову від маршруток до 2024 року



поділитись 33
 Дивитись коментарі
 Друк



передбачається повна відмова від маршруток з наступним переходом на тролейбуси, туди ж з більшою пасажиромісткістю.





Львівська
міська
рада



Institute of Innovative Governance



Non-governmental organization based in Ukraine and Estonia

Objectives:

- Promote e-participation and e-democracy
- Promote digital inclusion to make e-participation inclusive and gender sensitive

What is digital democracy (e-dem)?



E-democracy is the use of information and communication technologies and strategies in political and governance processes. Sometimes it is called Digital Democracy or Digital Politics.

- E-budgeting - digitalisation of budgetary procedures, which allows citizens to decide how to use some amounts of budget in their communities.
- E-petitioning. In most cases not connected to governments and do not entail any legal consequences.
- E-consultations and others

Digital Inclusion



- Necessary prerequisite of e-democracy is digital inclusion, meaning the inclusion of all vulnerable groups into digital politics.
- What prevents digital inclusion?
- Lack of Digital skills or digital gap (30-40% in Europe)
- Connectivity and affordable internet
- Accessibility
- Proactive communication about e-democracy tools

How to achieve digital inclusion?



- Governments should play a key role!
- By providing **free access to technologies** (hardware, software, high-speed Internet connectivity) in communities.
- By providing **digital literacy** services that assist individuals navigate, understand, evaluate, and create digital content using a range of information and communications technologies.
- By providing **digital services** on health and wellness, education, employment and workforce development, and civic engagement which are **accessible** to everyone
- By ensuring that all regions have good **connection** to the internet and can equally access digital services

Vulnerable groups

- People with disabilities
- Elderly
- **Women**
- People living in remote areas, indigenous people



One of the vulnerable groups are women



- Women are less present in tech and lack digital skills
- Women participate less in politics than men. Little participation means little representation of women interests in governance
- Women tend to be employed in informal economy, taking up part-time and lower paid jobs.
- Gender pay gap is significant.
- This is due to some traditional roles of women in society of guardians of families, children etc.
- Also, women are victims of 90% GBV cases

Politics does not work for women?



- Traditional barriers for women in politics are still there.
- Why politics is not working for women?
 - i. confidence
 - ii. financial resources
 - iii. time (absence of GRPS)
 - iv. culture (glass ceiling)

Is digital participation an answer?



- Getting access to governance through digital may be the only way for many women.
- What digital participation offers:
 - confidence (anonymity if possible)
 - Resources (time and no or little money needed)
 - Culture (no glass ceiling but women are also less represented in digital)

NOW EVERY VOICE COUNTS

MAKE YOUR IMPACT



E-Women



Safety is key

- Some of the petitions may touch upon gender-sensitive issues such as GBV, sexist advertising etc and women may wish to suggest and sign such petitions anonymously.
- Safety is ensured by anonymity option
- Users are protected by blockchain from any theft of personal data, cyber attacks etc.

Platform is not exclusive for women

- The platform serves also as community-enabler. In comparison to Change.org and other popular e-petition services this platform is targeting mainly women and women issues.
- Men are also welcome to register petitions and vote for them. The platform is non-discriminatory.



E-Women in progress

- Community where women share ideas of urban planning and the ways to improve it
- In the long-term perspective we hope to see some of those women to get politically engaged also offline



More lights for Hlynanskyi pro

Hlynianskyi prospect in Lviv is dangerous to walk at night due to insufficient light at the middle and the end of the street.



More sport activities for girls in public park on Levandivka

A new park on Levandivka has little space for girls and women due to the large football field which occupies 70% of the new park. Since girls and women are almost not using the field we suggest to reduce the field's size and build more crosswalks and benches.

Success stories



- Lights in parks
- Public transport
- Community of active politically engaged women and girls on the local level



Challenges



- Lack of digital skills especially among older population and people living in rural areas. Takes time to explain how to sign the petition to some people.
- Personal data breaches
- Hacks on sensitive petitions
- Communication requires resources

Main findings



1. Digital democracy has the capacity to empower people into politics including some vulnerable groups if applied well.
2. Digital democracy can only work if everyone has equal access to digital services, thus digital inclusion.
3. Communication is key. Many great unknown projects and services

European Digital Development Alliance



- EDDA represents social innovators and digital development organizations at working groups of the European Commission and advocates for fair and inclusive digital agenda in and outside the EU.
- Goal: to influence EU policies to reduce digital divide and promote inclusive digital innovations within and outside the EU
- If you would like to join, it is the best time as we have been recently established and do not charge any membership fees 😊
- Let me know if you are interested!

Lets stay in touch!



anna.melenchuk@instingov.org

FB, LinkedIn, Twitter: Anna Melenchuk