

# CITY OF BETHLEHEM

## Department of Community and Economic Development

### Interoffice Memo

**TO:** Louise Kelchner, City Clerk  
**FROM:** Darlene Heller, Director of Planning and Zoning  
**RE:** Petition to Vacate – Graham Place

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At its March 10, 2016 meeting, the Planning Commission voted 4 to 1 to recommend approval of the petition to vacate the portion of W. Graham Place from New Street to Vine Street with two conditions as outlined in the Planning Bureau's March 3, 2016 memo:

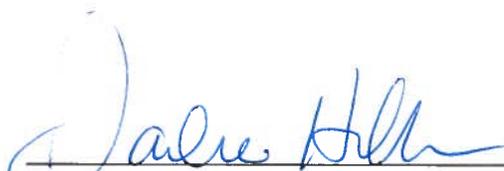
1. All of the comments of the February 23, 2016 memo from Mike Alkhal, Director of Public Works, shall be met.
2. The lot consolidation shall be approved prior to or concurrently with this street vacation.

The Planning Bureau's March 3, 2016 memo and the February 23, 2016 memo from Mike Alkhal of Public Works are both attached for reference.

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cc: Council Members  
J. Spirk, Law Bureau  
A. Karner  
T. Samuelson  
M. Alkhal

DATE: March 30, 2015

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene Heller  
Director of Planning and Zoning

# CITY OF BETHLEHEM

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## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Louise Kelchner, City Clerk  
**FROM:** Michael Alkhal, P.E., Director of Public Works/City Engineer  
**RE:** Petition to Vacate Portions of Graham Place  
**DATE:** February 23, 2016

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We have received the Petition to Vacate a portion of Graham Place, from New Street to Vine Street, submitted on behalf of the Bethlehem Parking Authority. We have reviewed the plan and information submitted for this request and offer the following comments:

1. The subject portion of this street contains public utilities including water, storm, and sanitary sewer;
2. The sanitary sewer and water mains both dead end on Graham Place and can be abandoned in the portion to be vacated;
3. The storm sewer in this portion of Graham Place must remain. An easement agreement would be necessary and we would need to review and approve any improvements in this area. An easement description and sketch should be submitted for review;
4. For traffic circulation purposes, this portion of Graham Place cannot be closed until the direction of travel on Vine Street is changed to one-way northbound or two-way traffic between Fourth Street and Graham Place.

We have reviewed the property description for the portion proposed for vacation and find it acceptable. We do not object to the vacation subject to the above conditions.

If you have any questions, please call.

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MA/MD/dlb

cc: Law Bureau  
M. Dorner  
T. Wells  
D. Heller  
T. Samuelson ✓  
File

By:   
Title: Public Works Director/City Engineer

# CITY OF BETHLEHEM

## Department of Community and Economic Development

### Interoffice Memo

**TO:** Planning Commission Members  
**FROM:** Darlene L. Heller, Director of Planning and Zoning  
**RE:** Petition to Vacate a portion of W. Graham Place from New Street to Vine Street

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Attached for reference is the formal petition and related map submitted by the Bethlehem Parking Authority and Best Suites Hospitality, LLC for the vacation of a portion of W. Graham Place from New to Vine Streets.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The land on either side of this portion of W. Graham Place that is proposed to be vacated is owned by Bethlehem Parking Authority to the south and Best Suites Hospitality to the north, the 2 applicants for this vacation. A portion of the land to the north is also owned by the City of Bethlehem.
2. W. Graham Place is an open 36 foot wide right-of-way.
3. Following the vacation the balance of the Graham Place corridor can be accessed via Brodhead at its western end and via Vine Street at its eastern end.
4. Vine Street will be changed from one way north to one way south as a part of the parking garage project.
5. A lot consolidation plan is proposed for consideration as a part of the Parking Garage project. Therefore, no parcels will be landlocked as a part of the overall project.
6. The proposed parking garage will have ingress/egress from New Street and Vine Street and will not require any access via Graham Place.

#### CONCLUSION

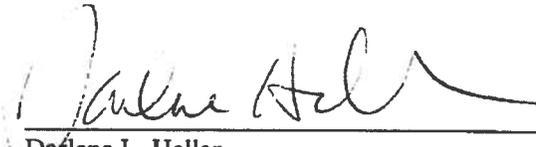
The Planning Bureau supports a recommendation in favor of the proposed street vacation in this section of W. Graham Place provided the following conditions are met:

1. All of the comments of the February 23, 2016 memo from Mike Alkhal, Director of Public Works, shall be met.
2. The lot consolidation shall be approved prior to or concurrently with this street vacation.

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**CC:** A. Karner  
T. Samuelson  
M. Dorner  
W. Leeson

**DATE:** March 3, 2016

  
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Darlene L. Heller  
Director of Planning and Zoning