

# THE PIDCOCK COMPANY

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ARCHITECTURE

LAND SURVEYING

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*Established 1924*  
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October 30, 2020  
Revised November 4, 2020

Mr. Michael Alkhal, P.E.  
Director of Public Works / City Engineer  
City of Bethlehem  
10 East Church Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Re: Lehigh Valley Health Network  
Muhlenberg  
Request for Sidewalk Deferral

Dear Mr. Alkhal:

On behalf of our client, Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), we have filed a Minor Land Development Plan with the City for a new heliport to be located between the two medical office buildings along Schoenersville Road. We understand that the City is now requesting LVHN install sidewalk along the perimeter public streets of the campus, specifically along Bathgate Drive, Westgate Drive from the current terminus of the sidewalk to Schoenersville Road, and along Schoenersville Road as provided in Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance §1349.06(b) and Article 905: Street Improvements; Assessments §905.02(a). Our client is prepared to work with the City to accomplish this sidewalk construction; however, due to requirement for LVHN to construct, and have the proposed heliport operational by early 2021, our client respectfully requests that the sidewalk design and construction not be included in, or a condition of, the plan approval for the heliport; but rather be granted a deferral and be processed as a separate plan submission to follow the heliport plan review and permitting.

LVHN is prepared to begin design of the sidewalk along Bathgate Drive and Westgate Drive and Schoenersville Road in the fourth quarter of 2020. It is anticipated that construction of the sidewalk along these streets could be done in the latter part of 2021; however, the time to acquire a Highway Occupancy Permit from PENNDOT and/or NPDES Permit from PADEP if required could delay the start of construction. Also, LVHN requests that any sidewalk/handicap ramp improvements at the intersection of Schoenersville Road and Westgate Drive that is to be completed by the Weis

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redevelopment on the Westgate Mall property be completed before, or be done concurrently with LVHN's sidewalk construction along Westgate Drive and Schoenersville Road.

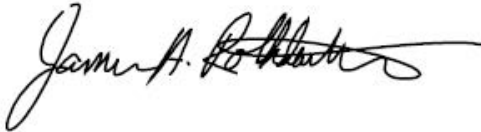
As you may be aware, the frontage along Schoenersville Road contains steep slopes and a large stormwater channel in the area of the former Coordinated Health building which preclude the construction of sidewalk in this area. Consequently, the sidewalk along Schoenersville Road is proposed to extend into the campus and connect to the existing sidewalk at the 2663 Schoenersville Road building (refer to the attached Exhibit E-1337). We further note that due to the absence of shoulders and the existence of guide rail along Schoenersville Road at the north side of the bridge over Route 22, it is not possible to connect a sidewalk between the area north of Route 22 to the proposed sidewalk south of Route 22.

We look forward to discussing this request for deferral with the Planning Commission at its meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

THE PIDCOCK COMPANY



James A. Rothdeutsch, P.E., LEED AP  
Director, Engineering Services

jar/acc

Enclosure

xc/enc: Mrs. Darlene L. Heller, AICP, Director, Planning & Zoning  
Mrs. Tracy E. Samuelson, Assistant Director of Planning & Zoning  
Ms. Amy B. Rohrbach, Project Engineer  
City of Bethlehem all via e-mail  
Mr. Robert Begliomini, PharmD, MBA, President, Lehigh Valley Hospital – Muhlenberg /  
Senior Vice President, LVHN Operations, Lehigh Valley Health Network via e-mail  
Mr. Marc Breidenbach, Administrator Design & Construction  
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