



# Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

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November 3, 2022

Tad J. Miller, City Clerk  
City of Bethlehem  
10 East Church Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

**RE: Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Miscellaneous and Design Standards  
City of Bethlehem  
Northampton and Lehigh Counties**

Dear Mr. Miller:

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) considered the subject application at its Comprehensive Planning Committee and Full Commission meetings, pursuant to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). Both meetings were virtual, and occurred on:

- LVPC Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting
  - October 25, 2022 at 12:00 PM
- LVPC Full Commission Meeting
  - October 27, 2022 at 7:00 PM

The subject application proposes amendments to various articles of the City of Bethlehem’s Zoning Ordinance. Many of the proposed amendments are minor in nature and provide language clarifications such as “greater” to replace “larger”. Language clarifications serve to improve usability of the ordinance and align with the intent of *FutureLV: The Regional* plan to promote best practices for local governments (of Policy 1.4).

The LVPC commends the reduced parking minimums proposed in Section 4. Article 1319.01(a)(1) for multi-family dwellings/apartments with two or fewer bedrooms and workforce units, which supports context-specific design solutions and promotes more efficient development processes in urban areas (of Policy 5.4 and 1.1) Overall the proposed amendments demonstrate ‘evolution and adaptability of government’ (of Policy 1.4).

Municipalities, when considering ordinance amendments, should reasonably attempt to be consistent with *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*, as required by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) [Article 1§105, Article III§303, §304 & §306(a), Article VI§603(j)]. Please send a copy of any final amendments that are adopted, per the requirements of the MPC.

Sincerely,

Jillian Seitz  
Senior Community Planner

CC: Darlene Heller, Planning and Zoning Director, City of Bethlehem