

City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS (COA)

Building address 925 PROSPECT AVE., BETHLEHEM, PA 18018  
 Owner of building ANDREW GRASON Phone [REDACTED]  
 Owner's email & mailing address: [REDACTED] 8 W. CHURCH ST, BETHLEHEM PA 18018  
 Applicant ANDREW GRASON Phone: [REDACTED]  
 Applicant's email & mailing address [REDACTED] 8 W. CHURCH ST, BETHLEHEM PA 18018  
Street and Number City State Zip Code

**APPLICANT MUST ATTEND MEETING FOR CASE TO BE HEARD.**  
**USE THE CHECKLIST ON THE BACK OF THIS APPLICATION TO ENSURE YOUR SUBMISSION IS COMPLETE.**

*Application form, photographs, and drawings must be submitted (see attached for deadline) prior to the regular scheduled meeting in order to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.*

**1. PHOTOGRAPHS** - Photographs of your building and neighboring buildings **must accompany** your application.

**2. TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED** - Check all that apply. Please bring any samples or manufactures specifications for products you will use in this project.

<input type="checkbox"/> Trim and decorative woodwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Skylights
<input type="checkbox"/> Siding and Masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal work
<input type="checkbox"/> Roofing, gutter and downspout	<input type="checkbox"/> Light fixtures
<input type="checkbox"/> Windows, doors, and associated hardware	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs
<input type="checkbox"/> Storm windows and storm doors	<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition
<input type="checkbox"/> Shutters and associated hardware	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>ALUMINUM FENCING AND GATES</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Paint (Submit color chips - HARB only)	

**3. DRAWINGS OF PROPOSED WORK** - Required drawings **must accompany** your application. Please submit **ONE ORIGINAL AND TEN (10) COPIES OF DRAWINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS, APPLICATION FORM, AND ANY SPECIFICATIONS**

Alteration, renovation, restoration (1/4 or 1/8"=1'0" scale drawings required IF walls or openings altered.)  
 New addition (1/4" or 1/8"=1'0" scale drawings: elevations, floor plans, site plan)  
 New building or structure (1/4" or 1/8"=1'0" scale drawings: elevations, floor plans, site plan)  
 Demolition, removal of building features or building (1/4" or 1/8"=1'0" scale drawings: elevation of remaining site and site plan)  
 A scale drawing, with an elevation view, is required for all sign submittals

**4. DESCRIBE PROJECT** - Describe any work checked in #2 and #3 above. Attach additional sheets as needed.

INSTALLATION OF AN ALUMINUM FENCE AND THREE ALUMINUM GATES AROUND THE MAJORITY OF PROPERTY PERIMETER. THE PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE PROTECTION/SECURITY FOR BOTH OUR 19 MONTH OLD DAUGHTER AND PET DOG. THE AESTHETICS OF FENCE WOULD INCORPORATE AESTHETICS OF SEVERAL EXISTING FENCES IN SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD.

**5. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE** [Signature] DATE: 5/28/22  
**OWNER'S SIGNATURE** [Signature] DATE: 5/28/22

## Addendum to Certificate of Appropriateness (Description of Work):

We wish to install an aluminum fence and three aluminum gates around most of our property's perimeter. The purpose, most importantly, is the protection and security of both our 20-month-old daughter and family dog. But also, along with proper landscaping, to achieve desired aesthetic and some amount of privacy.

Specifications of fence, including supplier, style, etc. is listed in the fence contractor's proposal. The proposal also includes a drawing/sketch of the proposed fence. The fence and gates would be set between stone pillars.

A very appropriate comp, in both style and substance, would be the aluminum fencing at 1505 Prospect Ave. just a few blocks away. A quick survey of our neighborhood shows somewhat similar desired aluminum fencing outcomes at 727 W. Market St., 418 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 357 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Our preference for an aluminum structure is borne of the following reasons:

- Upkeep: considering the scale of the fence, maintaining the integrity of its structure would be very challenging with other materials. Pressure treated wood, which would likely be one of our few wood options, tends to twist and will warp and check (surface splitting) to a greater degree than other wood options. Iron would need constant maintenance to prevent rust and corrosion.
- Availability: aluminum is more readily available relative to other materials. Since the pandemic Canada has shut down more than half their cedar mills, or brought about their closures due to stringent regulations, making cedar very hard to come by and almost doubling its price. Iron is both hard to come by; most local fencing contractors do not even work with this material. I was only able to find one and he is located in the Philadelphia area.
- Cost: the cost of wood would be at least 50% more than aluminum; the cost of iron would be more than double that of aluminum and would end up costing well more than \$50,000 (making the latter option cost prohibitive).

Having lived in downtown Bethlehem, across from City Hall, for many years we greatly appreciate the purpose of the Historic and Conservation Districts. Our intention is, and always will be, to maintain the property of our new house in the spirit of HCC's vision.

We truly believe our desired plans for this property will not only enhance the beauty of our corner but will blend seamlessly with our surrounding neighborhood. All while achieving what is best for our growing family both practically and financially.

Sincerely,

Mary Kate and Andy





Both: 1505 Prospect Ave. Bethlehem Pa 18018



Top: 347 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Bethlehem Pa 18018

Bottom: 418 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Bethlehem Pa 18018





727 Market St. Bethlehem Pa 18018











From Top: driveway, across the street, right side, backyard, front and front/left corner



Too Left, Across and in Rear





Across, to Right and "Catty Corner"



Surrounding properties.