



CITY OF BETHLEHEM

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J. William Reynolds
Mayor

April 27, 2022

RE: 218-226 W Union Boulevard
Mixed Use Development
Zoning Appeal

Zoning Hearing Board Members,

I am writing this letter to express my administration's general support for the above-referenced project. The site has been underutilized and unsightly for years. Union Boulevard is a gateway to the downtown in this area. Because the parcel is located at the entrance to the Route 378 interchange, this parcel is at a key location as people enter Bethlehem's downtown area. Redevelopment of this site is sorely needed.

The addition of new residential units so close to the Northside downtown supports the existing restaurants and retail stores in the downtown area. We continue to look for new opportunities for residential development in the core areas of the City to support our downtowns.

This proposal supports many of the general planning initiatives promoted in the City's policies and ordinances. The development engages with the street and incorporates commercial/retail uses on the first floor. Parking is below the residential uses at grade level and to the rear of the lot. Traffic ingress/egress will be evaluated thoroughly during the land development review process. Landscaping and lighting upgrades will also be reviewed during the land development process.

The City will continue to work with the developer through the ongoing land development and permit process related to general building design, compatibility with the corridor, landscaping and lighting.

Thank you again for your service to the City of Bethlehem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. William Reynolds".

J. William Reynolds, Mayor
City of Bethlehem