

Project Narrative
Indie Hair Collective
520 Long Street, Bethlehem, PA

The applicant is requesting zoning approval to convert the existing commercial space located at 520 Long Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, formerly operated as a bakery, into Indie Hair Collective, a small professional hair salon.

Indie Hair Collective will be an appointment-based salon providing professional hair services including haircuts, hair coloring, highlighting, balayage, styling, treatments, and related salon services.

The proposed salon will contain two styling stations and two shampoo bowls. Approximately four salon professionals may work within the business, with client appointments scheduled throughout the day. Because services are primarily appointment-based, client arrivals and departures will be distributed throughout the day rather than occurring all at once.

The salon's proposed operating hours will be no earlier than 9:00 AM and no later than 7:00 PM. Actual business hours may vary by day and stylist schedules but will remain within this proposed operating window.

Renovations to the existing commercial space will primarily consist of interior improvements necessary for salon operations. This will include the installation and modification of plumbing to accommodate the shampoo bowls and necessary sinks, as well as the installation of styling stations, salon equipment, retail displays, storage, and related furnishings. The existing building will continue to be used for commercial purposes.

Clients and employees will utilize the adjacent public parking garages and other available public parking in the surrounding area, minimizing the need for dedicated on-site parking associated with the salon.

The business also proposes exterior identification signage displaying the Indie Hair Collective business name and logo. The signage will be designed as professional business identification for the salon and will comply with applicable City requirements.

All salon services will take place indoors. The proposed use does not involve manufacturing, heavy equipment, outdoor storage, or other activities that would generate significant noise or disruption to neighboring properties. The small number of styling stations and appointment-based nature of the business will also help limit the volume of clients occupying the property at any one time.

The goal of Indie Hair Collective is to thoughtfully adapt an existing commercial space into an attractive, professionally maintained, locally owned business. The proposed salon will allow the property to remain in active commercial use while providing a service-oriented business that is compatible with the surrounding area.

The applicant respectfully requests approval of the proposed change of use from the former bakery to a professional hair salon at 520 Long Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.