The City's Housing and Neighborhood Vision

Bethlehem has maintained its tradition as a city of attractive and diverse neighborhoods. The City's housing-related goals include the following:

- Keep City neighborhoods safe, physically attractive and pedestrian-friendly.
- Ensure that new housing is well planned, well landscaped, and compatible with its surroundings in terms of density and design.
- Encourage construction of workforce housing for current and prospective City residents with a range of incomes.
- Encourage entities across the Lehigh Valley to continue treating affordable housing as a regional issue.
- Assist property owners in tackling housing rehabilitation needs, especially code-deficient conditions.
- Facilitate mixtures of residential and low-intensity non-residential uses in appropriate areas of the City.
- Encourage the deconversion of single-family homes that are now apartments back to one-unit structures.



Turnberry Mews condominiums on Linden Street in North Bethlehem

Important Housing and Neighborhood Trends

Residential Construction Trends

Bethlehem has a diverse housing stock that includes single-family detached homes, apartments and a range of attached housing types, such as row homes, townhouses, and twins. Recently, the City has issued many more building permits for new apartments than new detached homes or new townhouses. These trends reflect the fact that Bethlehem is an urban area and indicate the current direction of the City's housing market.

Recently, several large, high-profile adaptive reuse projects have been completed, are under construction, or are in the planning stages. These projects include the Lehigh Riverport condominiums, which is a reuse of former manufacturing space along the Lehigh River and the proposed residential reuse of Martin Tower, Bethlehem Steel's former corporate headquarters.

A South Bethlehem Neighborhood

