



Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

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Michael P. Hanlon
435 West Hamilton Street
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RE: **Street Vacation Petition**
A Portion of Skyline Drive which is a dead-end
City of Allentown, Lehigh County

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) will consider the subject street vacation petition at its Transportation Planning Committee and Full Commission meetings, pursuant to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). Discussion on agenda items largely happens during the Committee meeting. Both meetings are virtual, please see the meeting details below to attend. The LVPC will issue a follow-up letter after the Commission meeting should the Commission have any additional comments.

- LVPC Transportation Planning Committee Meeting - August 24, 2022 at 5:30 PM, <https://lvpc.org/meetings.html>
- LVPC Full Commission Meeting - August 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM, <https://lvpc.org/meetings.htm>

Mr. Hanlon,

The proposed street vacation was submitted by the City of Allentown on behalf of John J. Wagler c/o Frank N. DiAmore, Esq., 645 W. Hamilton Street Suite 800, Allentown, PA 18101.

The proposed street vacation petition was reviewed for recommendations under Section 304 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, and for general consistency with the intent of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*.

The proposed street vacation portion of Skyline Drive is a dead-end segment of the road. The right-of-way continues West, but the road was never developed. The City of Allentown is also requesting the road be vacated. There are utility lines that run perpendicular to Skyline Drive in the proposed street vacation. The plan that was submitted with the street vacation petition indicated that the owner of 501 Skyline Drive would like to use the proposed site as a driveway, in part, for a new house on the property.

It is strongly recommended that the adjacent owners of 802 Whittier Drive be notified of the vacation petition, and sign to memorialize their concurrence for the vacating of the dead-end section of Skyline drive. The only other property that is adjacent to the proposed street vacation

is 413 Constitution Drive, which is part of Walking Purchase Park owned by the County of Lehigh. If the street vacation is allowed, Lehigh County would lose access to their property via Skyline Drive if needed. All property owners involved need to be consulted, especially since access to public lands would be affected should the street vacation be granted. (of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan Policy 5.4*)



Aerial Imagery of Skyline Drive Proposed Vacation – Neighboring properties shown – Utility Wire Shown in Blue
Imagery courtesy of Google Maps

The vacating of rights of way by the City of Allentown for the described portion of Skyline Drive would not negatively affect current traffic circulation. (of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan Policy 5.4*) It is strongly recommended utilities that are above or below ground remain accessible via easement in the event of maintenance or repair that may be required to maintain the essential power and telecommunications infrastructure. (of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan Policy 5.4*)

We appreciate the City's consideration of the goals and policies of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*.

Please feel free to reach out to me regarding any questions you may have regarding the LVPC review.

Evan Gardi
Transportation Planner



View of Skyline Drive vacation proposal from Skyline Drive – Utility wires shown – Image courtesy of Google Street View