

September 22, 2025

Allentown City Council
City of Allentown
435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA 18101

RE: ZONE Allentown

City Council,

Please accept this letter on behalf of The Lehigh Conference of Churches supporting the City's proposed Zoning Ordinance and SALDO update. The Lehigh Conference of Churches is a faith-based, nonprofit agency connecting basic human needs to the most vulnerable people in the Lehigh Valley: food, housing, dignity, a sense of belonging, and hope for the future. Our mission is simple. We help families and individuals maximize their independence and reach their full potential.

We have reviewed the ZONE Allentown proposals, met with city staff, and emphasized our hope for Allentown and the greater Lehigh Valley as a whole. We believe the updates made to the zoning code and the goals of these ordinances closely align with our mission. We felt staff took into consideration the different needs of our communities and the core goals of the proposed code will have a lasting positive impact on Allentown. Specifically, the ordinances support an increase in the supply and affordability of housing, while also creating the circumstances for job growth and stable employment. Each of which is instrumental to the Lehigh Conference of Churches commitment to offering a continuum of care to our residents and a brighter future for our region.

ZONE Allentown is a mechanism to work toward the goals for the future of this city and its residents.

We hope that Allentown City Council votes to approve the proposed Zoning Ordinance and SALDO.

Thank you,



Abigail Goldfarb, Executive Director

The Lehigh Conference of Churches

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