



**Jennifer Gomez, AICP**  
**Director of Planning and Zoning**

City of Allentown  
435 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101-1699  
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April 11, 2024

The Honorable Cynthia Mota  
President, Allentown City Council  
435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18101

THRU: Michael Hanlon (michael.hanlon@allentownpa.gov)  
Clerk of City Council

Re: **Request of South Whitehall Township for a Resolution  
Supporting its Update Act 537 (Sewage Facilities Plan)**

Please be advised that at the monthly meeting of the Allentown City Planning Commission held on April 9, 2024, the Commission considered the request from South Whitehall Township for review and comment of the township's updated Act 537 Plan, and to pass a resolution (draft attached herewith) in support of the plan for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Staff from the City Public Works Department reviewed said plan and shared its findings with the Commission at said meeting.

The Commission had no comment.

Attached, for City Council's consideration is a draft resolution accepting the township's Updated Act 537 Plan, 2024 and authorizing its submission to Pa-DEP.

Should you have any questions concerning this action, please contact me.

Yours truly,

Digitally signed by: Gomez,  
Jennifer  
DN: CN = Gomez, Jennifer  
email = Jennifer.  
Gomez@allentownpa.gov  
OU = CITY, Users, PLN  
Date: 2024.04.11 17:23:06  
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ec: South Whitehall (Tom Petrucci, Mark Strohler)  
COA (Mark Shahda, David Petrik, Brian Borzak)

# SOUTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP

4444 Walbert Avenue, Allentown, PA 18104-1699  
www.southwhitehall.com • 610-398-0401

Cynthia Mota  
Council President  
City of Allentown  
435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18101

**RE: South Whitehall Township (Lehigh County, PA) Act 537 Sewage Facilities Official Plan  
Update Public-to-Public Wastewater Disposal System Transfer  
Request for Approval of Resolution**

March 11, 2024

Dear Honorable Mota:

South Whitehall Township is currently in the process of submitting a revised Act 537 Official Plan to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. South Whitehall Township previously submitted a draft version of the plan to your municipality on September 11, 2023. No plan comments were received from your agency that would require a substantive revision to the draft Act 537 Official Plan.

Enclosed for your review and approval is an updated version of the draft "South Whitehall Township (Lehigh County, PA) Act 537 Sewage Facilities Official Plan Update Public-to-Public Wastewater Disposal System Transfer" plan document. South Whitehall Township, in conjunction with its sewage planning consultant, SSM Group, has prepared the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update following the Public-to-Public System Transfer guidelines in order to officially recognize the transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority (and all facilities and operations) to South Whitehall Township.

Because an intermunicipal agreement exists between South Whitehall Township and the City of Allentown, originally dated November 20, 1962 (as subsequently amended), which formalizes the acceptance of sewage from properties outside of each respective municipality, South Whitehall Township is asking that you adopt a formal Resolution to approve the Public-to-Public Wastewater Disposal System Transfer as a revision to the Official Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan of South Whitehall Township.



In this regard, we have enclosed a draft Resolution for the consideration of approval of your governing body for your reference and use. South Whitehall Township kindly asks that you accomplish this approval in a timeframe of no greater than thirty (30) days from receipt of this correspondence.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me as follows:

**Thomas R. Petrucci, MPA, Township Manager**  
**South Whitehall Township**  
**4444 Walbert Avenue**  
**Allentown, PA 18104**  
**Email- [petruccit@southwhitehall.com](mailto:petruccit@southwhitehall.com)**

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Petrucci, MPA  
Township Manager

cc: Project File  
Herb Bender, Director of Operations (via email)  
Joseph Zator, Township Solicitor (via email)  
Jennifer Alderfer, Assistant Township Solicitor (via email)  
David Manhardt, Director of Community Development (via email)  
Mike Elias, Utilities & MS4 Program Coordinator (via email)  
Jason Newhard, Manager, SSM Group (via email)  
Jamie Lorah, SSM Group (via email)

**SOUTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP**  
www.southwhitehall.com • 610-398-0401



## Staff Report

City of

All comments in the  
report are advisory

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To: Allentown City Planning Commission  
From: Bureau of Planning & Zoning  
Meeting Date: April 9, 2024

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Subject: Acceptance of South Whitehall Township's Sewage Facilities Plan  
Requested by: Thomas Petrucci, Township Manager

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### **Description of Request**

South Whitehall Township is requesting the City of Allentown to review and comment on the township's updated Act 537 Sewage Facilities Official Plan.

Aside from other essential features, the update officially completes the dissolution of the South Whitehall Township Authority and transfers the management of all its facilities and operations to South Whitehall Township. Because an intermunicipal agreement exists between South Whitehall Township and the City of Allentown (originally dated November 20, 1962 and subsequently amended) – which formalizes the acceptance of sewage from properties outside of each respective municipality – South Whitehall Township is asking the City of Allentown to adopt a City Council Resolution (draft attached) accepting the township's Act 537 Plan and approving the same for submission to PA-DEP.

### **Conclusion**

Staff from the Public Works Department will present the city comments on the matter.

**CITY OF ALLENTOWN**  
**LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**RESOLUTION 2024-XX**

**(Duly Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ . 2024)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN,  
LEHIGH COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
ADOPTING THE SOUTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP ACT 537 SEWAGE FACILITIES  
PLAN (PUBLIC-TO-PUBLIC SYSTEM TRANSFER)**

**WHEREAS**, Section 5 of the Act of January 24, 1966, P.L. 1535, No. 537, known as the “Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act”, as amended, and the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) adopted thereunder, Chapter 71 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Code, requires the municipality to adopt an Official Sewage Facilities Plan providing for sewage services adequate to prevent contamination of waters and/or environmental health hazards with sewage wastes, and to revise said plan whenever it is necessary to meet the sewage disposal needs of the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, South Whitehall Township has prepared an Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update following the Public-to-Public System Transfer guidelines in order to officially recognize the transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority to South Whitehall Township, and address any previous planning that has not yet been implemented for the Township service area; and

**WHEREAS**, South Whitehall Township currently has inter-municipal agreements with four (4) adjacent municipalities, including Salisbury, Upper Macungie, and Lower Macungie Townships, as well as the City of Allentown. Wastewater from these Townships is conveyed to the South Whitehall Township collection system via multiple interconnections, which is then directed to the LCA’s Kline Island Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

**WHEREAS**, the inter-municipal agreement with City of Allentown was executed on April 12, 1965. Subsequent amendments to the Agreement were executed in March 1964, April 1965, and January 1967; and

**WHEREAS**, the inter-municipal agreement with the City of Allentown addresses the acceptance of sewage from properties outside of each respective municipality into their sewer mains, trunk lines, outfall sewers and pumping stations and to convey through their respective collection systems any sanitary sewage received under the terms of that agreement to the City of Allentown Kline’s Island sewage treatment facility

**WHEREAS**, the selected sewage disposal alternative to be implemented is the transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority sanitary wastewater collection system to South Whitehall Township, including assignment all of the rights and obligations associated with said transfer; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Allentown finds that the Plan described above conforms to applicable zoning, subdivision, other municipal ordinances and plans, and to a comprehensive program of pollution control and water quality management.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Allentown hereby adopt and submit to the Department of Environmental Protection for its approval of the revision to the “Official Plan” of the municipality, the above referenced Facility Plan. The municipality hereby assures the Department of the complete and timely implementation of the said plan as required by law (Section 5, Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act as amended).

**DULY ADOPTED** this \_\_\_<sup>th</sup> day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024, by a majority of the City Council of the City of Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, at a duly advertised meeting of the City Council of the City of Allentown at which a quorum was present.

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ALLENTOWN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ALLENTOWN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Vice President

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary