



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. __

RESOLUTION

R162 - 2025

Introduced by the Administration on November 5, 2025

Approves the submission of the formal application for the local share account grant on behalf of Ripple Community, Inc. to support the redevelopment and repurposing of a historic Allentown building located at 1547 W. Chew Street.

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, the City of Allentown is desirous of submitting a formal application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for a grant of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Allentown, Lehigh County hereby requests a local share account grant on behalf of Ripple Community, Inc. to support the redevelopment and repurposing of a historic Allentown building located at 1547 W. Chew Street.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the City of Allentown hereby designates Matthew Tuerk Mayor, and Bina Patel, Finance Director, as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the City of Allentown and the Commonwealth.

Legislative Template

- **What department or bureau is this bill originating from?**

This bill originates from the Department of Community and Economic Development Grants Department on behalf of Ripple Community, Inc.

- **Summary and facts of the bill.**

The City of Allentown is submitting a formal application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for \$500,000 awarded from the Statewide Local Share Account (LSA) grant that will support the redevelopment and repurposing of a historic Allentown building located at 1547 W. Chew Street. The building be will repurposed from a house of worship into twelve (12) deeply affordable apartments, office space for the organization, three (3) medical respite rooms, and a community center. Current zoning is approved for the apartments, office space, and medical respite rooms. Ripple Community Inc. is pursuing zoning approval for the community center.

- **Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:**

- a. **What are the specific goals or tasks the bill seeks to accomplish?**

The Resolution is a requirement of the application to demonstrate the City's support for the project and to designate Mayor Matthew Tuerk as the signatory of the contract with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

- b. **What are the benefits of doing this?**

The benefits of the project include strengthening low-income housing and addressing long-term housing affordability in the city.

- c. **How does this bill relate to the City's vision/mission/priorities?**

The project is consistent with Vision 2030, the City's comprehensive plan and is in line with the priorities identified in the Welcome Home Allentown: Housing Needs Analysis and Strategic Plan. The project supports the City's priorities by increasing safe, affordable housing opportunities, supporting economic mobility for low-income households, and addressing public health concerns.

- **Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:**

- a. **Cost (initial and ongoing)**

The grant application is for \$500,000. All funding commitments are the responsibility of Ripple Community, Inc. and there is no financial impact or risk to the City.

- b. **Benefits (initial and ongoing)**

The project supports the City's priorities by increasing safe, affordable housing opportunities, supporting economic mobility for low-income households, and addressing public health concerns.

- **Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - a. **If transferring funds, please make sure to give specific account names and numbers. If appropriating funds from a grant, please list the agency awarding the grant.**

The funding comes from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

- **Priority status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?**

The resolution is a requirement of the formal application. The grant application submission due date is November 30, 2025.

- **Why should Council unanimously support this bill?**

The resolution will allow the City to make a formal application for these funds to support this capital project.