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October 29, 2021

Michael P. Hanlon  
435 West Hamilton Street  
Allentown PA 18101  
[Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPA.gov](mailto:Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPA.gov)

Transportation Planner

RE: **Street Vacation  
West Howe Street from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to its Terminus  
City of Allentown  
Lehigh County**

Mr. Hanlon,

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) considered the subject street vacation petition at its Transportation Planning Committee and Full Commission meetings on October 28, 2021, pursuant to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

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

Howe Street is a "dead end" street due to a previous street vacation in 2001 to facilitate the construction of the "Grand Plaza" (formerly the PPL Plaza building) at 835 West Hamilton Street, Allentown PA 18101.

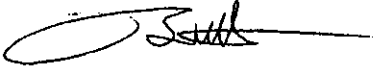
Howe Street is only ten feet wide in width between existing building walls and less than nine feet in width at its entrance off 8<sup>th</sup> Street. No buildings abutting Howe Street have any loading docks, cargo doors, or wide entrances for deliveries only single pedestrian doorways. The utilization of Howe Street is for storage of trash and recycling containers that are rolled out to 8<sup>th</sup> Street for collection by refuse and recycling haulers.

The petition did not list any adjoining property owners for their concurrence, it is strongly recommended that the petition acquire their representative signatures for concurrence of vacating Howe Street.

Access should be maintained for residents, businesses and utility infrastructure of adjoining buildings via a multimodal sidewalk type corridor for mobility and the continued storage of trash and recycling containers for the area of the proposed vacation. Policy 5.4 of *Future LV: The Regional Plan promotes context-specific design solutions*.

Additionally, the area should be maintained for emergency response purposes to the adjoining buildings and the continued access to fire escape ladders attached to the rear of 801 West Hamilton Street. Policy 5.1 of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* recommends promoting safe and secure community design and emergency management.

We appreciate the City's consideration of these Policies of FutureLV: The Regional Plan in as much as it relates to the street vacation petition of a Howe Street.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Hite", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Hite  
Transportation Planner