




**MATT TUERK  
MAYOR**

435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown PA 18101

OFFICE ♦ 610.437.7546 EMAIL ♦ Matt.Tuerk@allentownpa.gov

To: Allentown City Council  
From: Matt Tuerk, Mayor   
Date: May 25, 2022  
Subject: Nomination of Interim Director Mark Shahda for Director of Public Works

It is with great enthusiasm that I am nominating Mark Shahda to become the City's Director of Public Works.

Mark's journey with the City is remarkable: starting as a seasonal summer hire in 1996 before accepting a full-time position as a Maintenance Worker in 1998. He was promptly elevated into different levels of the Public Works Department, most notably Streets Superintendent and then Deputy Director of Public Works in 2019.

As Deputy Director of Public Works, Mark supervised the operations and direction of all Public Works departments including Streets, Stormwater, Engineering, Fleet, Building Maintenance, Compliance, Recycling & Solid Waste, Traffic Planning, and Technical Services. He also established and oversaw the Cost Share Program with the Lehigh County Authority and UGI, which relieved the City from an estimated \$5 million dollar project. This program is responsible for a tremendous amount of City support, including a supplement to pave the streets, as well as fully funding ADA handicap ramp installations. The program has additionally aided the residents of the City of Allentown by eliminating the financial burden of replacing handicap ramps and improving accessibility.

Aside from his work history, Mark has strong ties to Allentown that have been of great benefit in his service to the City. He was born and raised in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward and is a graduate of Dieruff High School. As Deputy Director, he has worked closely with important City partners like the Allentown Parking Authority. These relationships display a commitment to the City in both his personal and professional life, which is an invaluable asset for the Director of Public Works position.

His salary will be \$107,290. I am honored to forward his name to you for confirmation. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding Mark or his nomination.