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March 28, 2025

Ms. Jennifer Gomez, Director of Planning and Zoning
City of Allentown
435 Hamilton St.
Allentown, PA 18101

**Re: Community Center Definition – Zoning Ordinance Amendment
City of Allentown
Lehigh County**

Dear Ms. Gomez:

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) will consider the subject application at its Comprehensive Planning Committee and Full Commission meetings, per requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). The meetings occur on:

- LVPC Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting
 - o March 25, 2025, at 12:00 PM
 - o <https://lvpc.org/meetings.html>
- LVPC Full Commission Meeting
 - o March 27, 2025, at 7:00 PM
 - o 615 Waterfront Drive, Suite 201, Allentown, PA

The proposal makes amendments to Section 660-6 of the City of Allentown Zoning Ordinance to alter the definition for community center to remove the meal service limitation of only senior citizens to all individuals. The petition originates from City of Allentown property owners, RCI Village Properties and Lehigh Conference of Churches.

This proposal aligns with several goals and policies outlined in *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* to improve access to food and daily needs for all people (*FutureLV* Policy 5.2). By removing specific mention of senior citizen, and replacing it with all individuals, it removes the potential ambiguity of those who qualify as senior citizens and supports adaptability of government (of *FutureLV* Policy 1.1).

Municipalities, when considering Zoning Ordinance Amendments, should reasonably attempt to be consistent with *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*, as required by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) [Article 1§105, Article III§303, §304 & §306(a), Article VI§603(j)].

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Dotta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joseph Dotta
Regional Planner

cc: Michael P. Hanlon, Applicant.