



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City of Solon to Host Townhall Meeting about Issue #65 Rezoning to a Mixed-Use Development in the Former Liberty Ford Site Area**

**SOLON, OH – Sept. 20, 2019** The City of Solon is hosting a townhall meeting to discuss Issue #65, the proposed ordinance regarding the rezoning of the former Liberty Ford site and its adjacent properties. The meeting will be held in the parking lot of the former Liberty Ford site on Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

In November, residents will decide whether they want the land to be rezoned for mixed-use development, which would include restaurants, retail, higher density residential and office space, or to keep the land zoned as is. The current zoning is limited to hotels, car sales/dealerships, automotive repair centers and gas stations. The issue is on the Nov. 5 ballot.

The townhall is an opportunity to share information and answer questions about the proposed rezoning ordinance. City officials and potential developers will respond to written questions from the audience and be available before and after the panel discussion for individual conversations. A tent, seating and stage will be set up for the event and light refreshments will be provided by Burgers2Beer and Penn Station East Coast Subs.

“This piece of land has great potential. The rezoning is the City’s way of taking action to revitalize this rundown area of Solon and ensure the Liberty Ford dealership doesn’t sit vacant for several years. Right now the uses are limited. We want to ensure residents have all of the information they need regarding the mixed-use rezoning ordinance to make an informed decision on Nov. 5,” said Solon Mayor Ed Kraus.

The proposed rezoning ordinance covers the 21.76 acres of the former Liberty Ford site and all of the adjacent properties along Aurora Road, Solon Road, Station Street and Melbury Avenue. If the rezoning ordinance passes, the current businesses will be able to operate as normal. Rezoning would allow for a mix of businesses, restaurants, a hotel and apartments. Recent area examples of mixed-use development include the Van Aken district in Shaker Heights and Pinecrest in Orange Village.

Industrial Commercial Properties LLC, a Solon-based development company, has a purchase agreement on the former Liberty Ford property and is positioned to become the master developer for what could become a mixed-use development.

"The best part of what we do is making a difference in a community. We consider ourselves economic redevelopment partners and have had great success in many locations," said Chris Semarjian, owner of Industrial Commercial Properties. "Solon is home for our headquarters, and it would be great to have the opportunity to revitalize and redevelop this part of the city." Residents are encouraged to attend the townhall meeting on Sept. 25. Representatives from the city and Industrial Commercial Properties will be on hand to answer questions.

For more information on the City of Solon, please visit [solonohio.org](http://solonohio.org).

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