



## City Council Comment received from Ana Espinoza

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 4:06 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Ana Espinoza

Commenting on behalf of:

Mater Academy of Northern Nevada

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

espinozaana227@yahoo.com

Phone Number:

7753425449

Address:

8886 Trifid St Reno NV 89505

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 Mater Academy .

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

I'm 100 % support Mater Academy of Northern Nevada to built a second public charter school.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

*By checking the "Yes" below, you understand, acknowledge, and expressly agree that: (1) all information submitted by you will be entered into the public record, made available for public inspection, and freely disseminated without restriction; and, (2) any contact, personal, financial, or medical information intentionally or inadvertently submitted by you will not be maintained in a confidential manner, or subsequently exempted from public inspection.*

Yes

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No

## Fees to use recreation centers

Notifications SN <Notifications@reno.gov>

Wed 7/24/2024 8:30 AM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Good morning,

We received this email at Reno Direct, which appears best suited for public comment. Please see below.

Thank you!

On Tuesday 23, July 10:21:00 PM PDT, 'cstrelo@yahoo.com' wrote:

Raising the fee from \$2 to \$8 per use priced many of us out of our favorite activities. What's next, an entrance fee to the city parks?

Shame on you for using the centers this way.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Ref:MSG0432888\_gwm94Y2pH2ycSto9VJR

## City Council Comment received from David Friedman

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 11:18 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

David Friedman

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 1

Email Address:

dwfriedman2000@gmail.com

Phone Number:

845-303-5767

Address:

160 Sinclair St 220 Reno, NV 89501

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

1.1.

### Position:

No position stated - Concerned or Neutral

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

I support the appeal of the Administrator's decision. Please do not approve the permit for Mater Academy of Northern Nevada.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Dioselina Gonzalez

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Wed 7/24/2024 11:29 AM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Dioselina Gonzalez

Commenting on behalf of:

No

Ward #:

Sparks

Email Address:

Linagg1503@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>

Phone Number:

7759548775

Address:

1690 merchant st apt 1424 sparks Nevada

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

General Closing Session Comment (unassociated to an agenda item)

### Item:

10.

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

Es muy Buena academy

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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Yes

## City Council Comment received from Elenor Sapien

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 6:16 PM

To: Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Elenor Sapien

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Address:

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy) In support of Mater Academy.

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

In favor

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Joanne Kots

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Wed 7/24/2024 8:53 AM

To: Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Joanne Kots

Commenting on behalf of:

Mater Academy of Northern Nevada

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

Joanne.kots@maternv.org

Phone Number:

775-223-3606

Address:

10502 Iron Point Circle

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy):

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

I began teaching in WCSD in 2004 when I moved to Reno. I made the best choice. I left the school district and began my journey in charter in 2016. At Mater, I am supported, valued, and have a voice. As a special education educator for 20 years, charter has exceeded my expectations! Administrators, teachers, and staff provide exceptional services and instruction. Building positive relationships with each individual student is part of the magic at Mater. The support provided by administrators, deans, instructional coaches, and teachers is second to none. The philosophy is all about providing the best quality education for the students. Are students are in a safe learning environment where every staff member knows each child by name. I am in favor of Mater's expansion. More students need to experience this type of leaning environment. Please vote to expand Mater.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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*persons, companies or organizations. Visit [www.Reno.Gov/RenoConnect](http://www.Reno.Gov/RenoConnect) to view all newsletter topic lists.*

No

## City Council Comment received from John Nunn

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 10:00 PM

To: Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

John Nunn

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 1

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Address:

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

1 Item – Public Hearing Item – In support of MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy).

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Lacy Palmer

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 4:56 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Lacy Palmer

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 4

Email Address:

lpscott3777@gmail.com

Phone Number:

7754003777

Address:

8949 Elk Ravine Dr

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy).

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

We really need this school out here, as all public schools in this area are underperforming, and under serving our children.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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Yes

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Yes

## City Council Comment received from Lindsey Nunn

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 10:01 PM

To: Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Lindsey Nunn

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 1

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Address:

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

1 Item – Public Hearing Item – In support of MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy).

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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Yes

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Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Marcia Lopez

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Wed 7/24/2024 7:45 AM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Marcia Lopez

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 1

Email Address:

sgtxtwo@att.net

Phone Number:

7752335090

Address:

1200 Riverside Drive

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

F Items - Ordinance Adoptions

### Item:

F3.

### Position:

In opposition

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

This property does need to be developed however it should focus on the original zoning (RFP) and not amendments to rezone for a larger complex and more units. The original zoning regulation were put in place for a reason and should be adhered to especially in this case. I have outline 4 issues of concern, for not only me but several residents in this area. 1-Saturation: There are 6+ Multi-family properties within a standard block radius creating a saturated and overcrowded area. Several of these units have leasing/rentals available. By increasing the already agreed upon maximum units (zoning) it serves only the purpose, to increase revenue in the developer and landlords pockets. As a city we should make sure that we are to focus "quality" over quantity not only in this area, but in our entirety. 2-Disproportionate Parking: additional units will create more disproportionate parking availability. An example is Jones street (on any given day) it used largely for any overflow and disproportionate parking for all other multi-family properties in the area. We shouldn't ask our community members to have to park several blocks away from where they live. 3-Riverside/Booth Traffic: Access to this property will also hinder the flow of traffic at the "intersection" of Jones and Riverside. Residents will have to turn W/B onto Riverside from Booth facing a blind corner with an excess of vehicular traffic from Keystone, 1st Street and East Riverside along with pedestrian traffic from the walking path on our River. Without a intersection redesign plan in place, we are placing our community members in an unnecessary and increasingly hazardous situation. 4-Hasty Review: Having the traffic study completed in November in no way shape or form represents the multitude of activities we enjoy in that area on a regular basis. Idlewild park, McKinley park, the Riverwalk and California Ave Farmer's Market host events many times throughout a typical year creating increased congestion further exasperated by increasing units for the proposed complex at this property. This leads me to believe the consideration for the increased development of this property was haphazardly submitted, rushed and several factors overlooked by both the planning commission and members of the council. I would request that this amendment be reviewed again more THOROUGHLY with emphasis on the issues I have brought before you today, before a final decision is made.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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Yes

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No

## MUP24-00010 Mater Academy

Markie Wilder <[wildermarkie@gmail.com](mailto:wildermarkie@gmail.com)>

Wed 7/24/2024 10:07 AM

To:Public Comment - CC <[PublicComment@reno.gov](mailto:PublicComment@reno.gov)>

Good Morning,

For the record, my name is Markie Wilder. I have dedicated the last 15 years of my life to education, working in various capacities including childcare, summer camps, and recreation. I have served at Natchez Elementary School within the Washoe County School District and Pyramid Lake High School, a Bureau of Indian Education school. I am also a mom scholar, currently pursuing a doctoral degree in educational leadership, and I serve as the Interim Director of The Multicultural Center at The University of Nevada, Reno. Since my daughter started school, we have lived in Sparks and Reno, choosing Mater Academy for her education. She is currently entering 2nd grade and has been there since Kindergarten.

Mater Academy excels due to its passionate and dedicated staff. Their learning approach is scaffolded and consistent across all grade levels, from kindergarten through 8th grade. The school's Positive Behavior Intervention System, Multi-Tiered Student Supports, and attention to neurodiversity and best practices are exemplary, largely due to their strong leadership. My child is actively engaged in her learning. Leads her parent-teacher conferences, understands her goals, and is excited about school. The teachers make learning enjoyable and engaging, which I have not witnessed in any other school.

I am privileged to choose a school for my daughter, but I see the educational gaps in some of the low-performing schools where her relatives attend. At Mater Academy, she receives a curriculum aligned with today's needs, including consistent social-emotional learning, mindfulness, and group projects—skills vital for future careers and higher education. My daughter is known by name by every staff member, who also know our family. She is greeted by the principal with hugs, high fives, and smiles.

An overcrowded school in the Washoe County School District is not an option for us because my daughter is more than just a student; She is brilliant and supported holistically by her teachers, who attend her games and care for her beyond the classroom. In an overcrowded environment, she would not have those privileges. As a working mom with late hours, the Boys & Girls Club at Mater Academy provides low-cost, and accommodating childcare. Adding another Boys & Girls Club at Mater Academy would benefit many families like ours. I look forward to the day my child can attend Mater Academy of Northern Nevada High School.

In summary, I urge you to:

1. Support the conditional use permit for a new Mater Academy school, thoroughly analyzed and approved by staff, the Mater Academy School Board, and the State Public Charter School Authority.
2. Approve the high-performing Mater Academy school to alleviate the burden on poor-performing and overcrowded schools in the North Valleys.
3. Establish a second Boys & Girls Club at Mater Academy to provide before and after school support for all children.

Thank you for your time and consideration in supporting Mater Academy and the future of our children's education.

Markie Wilder

## Overturn the Mater Academy Approval

Paola Godinez <paolagodinez@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed 7/24/2024 7:24 AM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Dear Reno City Council,

Please overturn the approval of a new charter school facility in the North Valleys, as it will harm the operations of the Washoe County School District, compromise student and educator safety, and is out of alignment with the Reno Master Plan.

Trivest Land Company proposes building a campus to house a 1500-seat charter school next to WCSD's Alice Smith Elementary School. Approval of this charter facility in this location is poor planning and is especially concerning given the separate and unequal dynamics between charter schools and neighborhood public schools. Locating such a large charter facility directly next to an at-risk school like Alice Smith will have the effect of siphoning away students with the most engaged parents, leaving students with greater needs and fewer resources. Our neighborhood public schools are responsible for educating the vast majority of our kids, particularly the most vulnerable. Meanwhile, development of this large charter will disrupt WCSD's 2020-2039 Facilities Plan and the collective efforts of this community to faithfully implement WC-1, including new WCSD schools in North Valleys. All the WCSD schools in the North Valleys are operating under capacity and a large new charter in the area could force WCSD to close an elementary school.

Traffic in this area already is a serious problem. This project will only make matters worse and is out of line with the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Numerous comments from those in the area have pointed out problems during drop-off and pick-up already. This includes U-turns in the middle of the street, double parking, and driving through parking lots to avoid intersections. The addition of nearly 2000 vehicle trips per day will put the safety of educators, students, and their families at greater risk. Alternatives like bicycling should usually be encouraged, but promoting bicycling to school at this location while also increasing vehicle congestion will put even more student lives at risk.

The Reno Master Plan calls on the City to work with WCSD to support their education programs and collaborate with the district in planning for the design and location of new public schools. This is in direct contrast to the process. Trivest Land Company and Mater Academy of Northern Nevada undertook for their new facility. Significant input from the community input was not solicited, and comments from WCSD were largely ignored. Following your own guidance in the master plan, we ask that you consider how this project will negatively impact both public safety and WCSD. Please overturn the approval of Trivest Land Company's proposal for a new school facility and ask the project sponsor to work with WCSD and the community on any future plans.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paola Godinez

Reno, NV 89506

paolagodinez@gmail.com

## City Council Comment received from Perla Zepeda

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 7:34 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Perla Zepeda

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

Pzepeda73@yahoo.com

Phone Number:

7753031561

Address:

11420 Rocky Mountain St

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 Mater Academy .

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

Hello, As a parent to 2 children that have had the pleasure of attending Mater Academy since kindergarten and as a Stead resident, it is to mine and my children's best interest to build the new Mater Academy in the North Valleys area. I say this as a resident, because I have witnessed the real necessity of providing us options in that area. 2 elementary school, 1 middle school, and 1 high school is not enough due to the influx of new builds in the area and more people moving to the North end of town. Not only that my children feel welcomed and loved by all the staff members, but it truly is very comforting to know that all the staff knows the children by there names. The welcoming hugs and dances are truly something that eases your mind when dropping them off and knowing that they are in a safe place during the time your are not with them. To my family it is to our best interest that a new Mater Academy is built in the North Valleys area not just because of the location, but because of what the school stands for and the curriculum being brought forth. The teachers will not let your child fall behind and there is so much support from all the staff. I feel that at Mater Academy we do matter. Thank you.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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No

## Overturn the Mater Academy Approval

SYBELLA POPE-SEARS <sybellasgarden@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed 7/24/2024 11:06 AM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Dear Reno City Council,

Please overturn the approval of a new charter school facility in the North Valleys, as it will harm the operations of the Washoe County School District, compromise student and educator safety, and is out of alignment with the Reno Master Plan.

Trivest Land Company proposes building a campus to house a 1500-seat charter school next to WCSD's Alice Smith Elementary School. Approval of this charter facility in this location is poor planning and is especially concerning given the separate and unequal dynamics between charter schools and neighborhood public schools. Locating such a large charter facility directly next to an at-risk school like Alice Smith will have the effect of siphoning away students with the most engaged parents, leaving students with greater needs and fewer resources. Our neighborhood public schools are responsible for educating the vast majority of our kids, particularly the most vulnerable. Meanwhile, development of this large charter will disrupt WCSD's 2020-2039 Facilities Plan and the collective efforts of this community to faithfully implement WC-1, including new WCSD schools in North Valleys. All the WCSD schools in the North Valleys are operating under capacity and a large new charter in the area could force WCSD to close an elementary school.

Traffic in this area already is a serious problem. This project will only make matters worse and is out of line with the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Numerous comments from those in the area have pointed out problems during drop-off and pick-up already. This includes U-turns in the middle of the street, double parking, and driving through parking lots to avoid intersections. The addition of nearly 2000 vehicle trips per day will put the safety of educators, students, and their families at greater risk. Alternatives like bicycling should usually be encouraged, but promoting bicycling to school at this location while also increasing vehicle congestion will put even more student lives at risk.

The Reno Master Plan calls on the City to work with WCSD to support their education programs and collaborate with the district in planning for the design and location of new public schools. This is in direct contrast to the process. Trivest Land Company and Mater Academy of Northern Nevada undertook for their new facility. Significant input from the community input was not solicited, and comments from WCSD were largely ignored. Following your own guidance in the master plan, we ask that you consider how this project will negatively impact both public safety and WCSD. Please overturn the approval of Trivest Land Company's proposal for a new school facility and ask the project sponsor to work with WCSD and the community on any future plans.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

SYBELLA POPE-SEARS

Sparks, NV 89434

sybellasgarden@gmail.com

## City Council Comment received from Trudy Nunn

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 9:59 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Trudy Nunn

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 1

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Address:

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

1 Item – Public Hearing Item – In support of MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy).

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

*By checking the "Yes" below, you understand, acknowledge, and expressly agree that: (1) all information submitted by you will be entered into the public record, made available for public inspection, and freely disseminated without restriction; and, (2) any contact, personal, financial, or medical information intentionally or inadvertently submitted by you will not be maintained in a confidential manner, or subsequently exempted from public inspection.*

Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Viridiana Gonzalez-Becerra

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 11:39 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Viridiana Gonzalez-Becerra

Commenting on behalf of:

Self

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

Vgonz2818@gmail.com

Phone Number:

775-444-5093

Address:

5483 Yukon Drive

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 ( mater academy) in support of mater academy .

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

We are requesting the city to please approve of a second building for our growing school. We as parents love this school and how much we've grown to become a family. Our children/student's have done an amazing job in showing a commitment with their school and staff as they would deserve to continue their education with mater academy. Approving of this would allow our children to prosper and be educated in a school of they're choice as our next generation our city of Reno and future of this city.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Yadira Loza

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 8:11 PM

To: Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Yadira Loza

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Sparks

Email Address:

yloza@sbcglobal.net

Phone Number:

7753435496

Address:

131 Lenwood Drive

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

Mup 24-00010 (Mater Academy).

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

As a teacher at Mater Academy, I just want to say that I 100% support building a new school in the North Valleys area. Our students, our families should have a school choice. I ask that you don't take that away from them, and let us continue to expand. Thank you for your time.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.*

Yes

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No

## City Council Comment received from Yolanda Herrera

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 7/23/2024 10:17 PM

To:Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

### Contact Info:

Name:

Yolanda Herrera

Commenting on behalf of:

Mater academy

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

Sokerchick062000@yahoo.com

Phone Number:

760-508-7011

Address:

825 Tradewinds ct Sun Valley

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-07-24.

### Section:

1 Items - Public Hearing Items

### Item:

MUP24-00010 (Mater Academy) In support of Mater Academy .

### Position:

In Favor

### Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

### If no, enter comments below:

Good Morning My name is Yolanda Herrera and my husbands name is Kevin, I am speaking on behalf of both of us. We are the proud parents of two amazing children, a 10 year old girl and 8 year old boy. Both of whom attend mater academy. In 2019, our daughter was old enough to attend kindergarten, and we were fortunate enough to have won the enrollment lottery for mater academy. This was our first experience being a parent of a child in school, and we were very impressed with how welcoming and helpful the staff was. They displayed great patience with all our questions, and made sure we felt comfortable leaving our child in their care. Our first impression of the school was great. 2019 was an especially difficult school year for our country, as we all had to learn how to navigate a nation wide pandemic and shut down. We were impressed with the speed and attention by MATER Academy, as they responded quickly and effectively to modify their lesson plan and issue our daughter an ipad, and a weekly program to maintain consistency with her daily education. The lesson plan included daily digital classrooms through zoom, and packets with educational activities. I can say that was not the case for all students in education, as we had friends with children that were attending a school within the W C S D, that only met with their teachers once a week. Our friends expressed to us that their kids had a harder time with the abrupt change and loss of education. However, our experience with Mater Academy during this unprecedented issue was great. Our son enrolled into Mater academy in 2021, and we greatly appreciated the schools policy that allows siblings to join without needing to apply for the enrollment lottery. The school expressed that they want to allow the opportunity to keep siblings together at the same school, and how difficult and distracting it could be otherwise. We felt that this policy was another example of the commitment mater academy has to the children and their education. Morning drop offs consist of Warm and energetic greetings from the principle and supporting staff, with music and dancing to set the mood for the children to get excited. Our kids look forward to going to school every morning because of how Mater academy has found a way to engage them. This extends into after school programs and events that reinforce the environment for our children. I wish I could say it was like that for me when I was attending public school. The teachers communicate with us regularly to provide feedback on our children, to include how we can help in areas of need, or if our child was having a tough day. In our opinion, they exemplify what we are all striving to find in an education program and staff have continued to be consistent. In our opinion, our experience, over the past five years, the schools commitment to the children and staff would be of great benefit to our children if Mater Academy was allowed the opportunity to expand into higher levels of education for high school. To see first hand, what they have accomplished to date, it excites us to think of what they could do with the future. Thank you all for your time, and for the opportunity to have a voice in this meeting.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's*

7/24/24, 7:08 AM

Mail - Public Comment - CC - Outlook

meeting.

Yes

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No