

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2021  
MEETING OF THE  
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

November 18, 2021

**1. Opening Items**

**1.01 Call to Order**

The meeting of the Zoning Advisory Committee was called to order at 5:31 p.m. The meeting was conducted at Verdi Elementary School located at 250 Bridge St. in Verdi, Nevada.

**1.02 Roll Call**

Chair Christine Hull and Committee Members Polly Boardman, Caylin Campbell, Kristen DeHaan, Kristie Essa, Natalie Ghysels, Amy Howe, Adriana Publico, Tyler Rogers, Lauren Rushing, and Brooke Snyder were present. Committee Member Araceli Martinez was absent. Staff Liaison, Lauren Ford, and staff were also present.

**2. Items for Presentation, Discussion, and/or Possible Action**

**2.01 Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2021, Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting**

Mr. Rogers noted an error in the minutes. The next meeting date of the Zoning Advisory Committee was stated as October 18, 2021, and it should have been November 18, 2021.

It was moved by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Ms. Publico that **the Zoning Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the October 21, 2021 Zoning Advisory Committee meeting, with the correction as discussed.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Polly Boardman, Caylin Campbell, Kristen DeHaan, Kristie Essa, Natalie Ghysels, Amy Howe, Christine Hull, Adriana Publico, Tyler Rogers, Lauren Rushing, and Brooke Snyder) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

**2.02 Discussion and Possible Action to Recommend the Board of Trustees approve Changes to the Attendance Zones Impacting the Following Schools: Robert McQueen High School, Verdi Elementary School, Roy Gomm Elementary School, B.D. Billinghurst Middle School, Darrel Swope Middle School, and Reno High School**

Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, presented the proposed enrollment zone adjustments impacting McQueen HS, Verdi ES, Gomm ES, Billingham MS, Swope MS, and Reno HS. This was the same information presented at the October 21, 2021 meeting of the Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC).

Option 1, Scenario A-1 moves the elementary school zoning boundary along the West 4<sup>th</sup> St. corridor and down I-80 to McCarran Blvd. This changes the current zoning for some students from Verdi ES to Gomm ES, then matriculating to Swope MS. The high school boundary line is not adjusted in this option. This would impact 52 current Verdi ES students and 29 current Billingham MS students that would be rezoned to Gomm ES and Swope MS, respectively.

Option 2, Scenario A-2 expands the impacts further west to the end of I-80/4<sup>th</sup> St. corridor, moving all of those neighborhoods to Gomm ES and Swope MS. It also adjusts the high school boundary, rezoning these neighborhoods from McQueen HS to Reno HS. The projected number of students impacted by this option would be 82 Verdi ES students, 42 Billingham MS students, and 15 McQueen HS students. For the 2022-23 school year, this option would result in a slight increase in enrollment at Gomm ES from 81% to 85% and Verdi ES would have a decrease down to 58%. Billingham ES would see a decrease to 78% and Swope MS an increase to 81%. At the high school level this option would move 15 students from McQueen HS to Reno HS.

Mr. Searcy then summarized the transportation impacts for both options. If a student is currently receiving transportation services, they will continue to receive transportation services in either option. If a student currently rides a bus to Verdi ES, they will continue to receive bus service to Gomm ES even if they are in the walk zone to Gomm ES because the 4<sup>th</sup> St. corridor is not a walkable option for students. Some students currently within the Billingham MS (both options) and McQueen HS (Option 2) walk zones would be provided transportation services. There would be no additional costs incurred by the Transportation Department with either option because they can adjust existing routes to accommodate any changes created by either rezoning option.

Mr. Searcy concluded by summarizing the recommendations. Option 1 impacts fewer total students, does not impact any students at the high school level, and results in a more uniform enrollment balance across the impacted schools. Option 2 impacts approximately 70% more students than Option 1, changes zoning for approximately 15 high school students, and results in a less uniform enrollment balance across impacted schools. The staff recommendation was to approve Option 1 effective for the 2022-23 school year.

Chair Hull opened the meeting to discussion.

Ms. Publico disclosed that she has a pre-school aged nephew that lives in one of the neighborhoods being discussed. She commented that they have received public comment about the Mayberry Park and River Park neighborhoods and asked if Mr. Searcy could point those areas out on the map. Mr. Searcy pointed out River Park and explained that it would be impacted by Option 2 but is not affected by Option 1. He commented that he didn't think there were any houses in the Mayberry Park area, but the area would only be impacted by Option 2.

Ms. Essa asked how many students currently in the Mesa Park area, which is in the Billinghamurst MS walk zone, would be affected by the Option 1 zoning change. Mr. Searcy did not know the exact number of students living in the Mesa Park neighborhood but commented that it would be 29 or less.

Ms. Boardman asked if there is a third option to make no change to the zoning in this area. Mr. Searcy replied there is always an option to do nothing. He explained that this change balances enrollment, takes advantage of 6<sup>th</sup> graders moving up to middle school, creates more compact neighborhood enrollment zones, improves safety for students being transported to Verdi, and creates room at Verdi ES for future growth. He noted that in school year 2017-18 the Committee deliberated on this issue and chose not to take action at that time.

Ms. Howe asked if they offer variances to students in the older grades. Ms. Ford answered that any student in the Billinghamurst MS or McQueen HS walk zones could get a variance. For example, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Billinghamurst MS could get a variance to Billinghamurst for their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, and a variance to McQueen after middle school because they can walk to school. Ms. Ford commented that one of the reasons they want to see this zoning change is that young students are driving nine miles in a bus on I-80 to Verdi ES, when there is a school within 1.3 miles of their home. Mr. Searcy added that an incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Verdi ES impacted by this change would be guaranteed a grandfathered variance, and general variances could also be approved as specified in board policy.

Chair Hull noted that Board Policy 7107, Alignment of School Attendance Zones, lists the factors necessary to consider when realigning school attendance zones including proximity of students to an individual school, safety of students, availability of space, transportation, growth impact, and capacity and enrollment of the schools to be rezoned as well as the surrounding schools. She added that it is important for the Committee to keep those factors in mind when making decisions.

Ms. Publico asked Mr. Searcy about upcoming developments for the Gomm and Verdi attendance zones. Mr. Searcy explained that they strive to align enrollment projections with information from all the local jurisdictions. He replied there is very little population growth projected in the Gomm ES area but a significant amount in the Verdi enrollment

zone. There is an additional elementary school forecasted for the Verdi area in the District's 20-Year Facilities Master Plan.

Ms. Campbell commented on the decreased enrollment at Verdi ES under Option 2 to 58% capacity. She noted that if there are overages in the ratio of students to teachers, a school may lose teachers, and this may have a negative impact on students, teachers, and schools. She voiced the concern that this could happen at a school that is only at 58% capacity. Ms. Ford commented that Gomm ES would be projected to lose teachers with the loss of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to middle school, but with the zoning change they would not be projected to lose teachers. Verdi ES will be allocated at their current rate of teachers in the fall of the 2022-23. She added that Swope MS will gain teachers and Billingshurst MS, with a 29:1 student teacher ratio, could possibly lose a teacher.

Chair Hull opened the meeting to public comment.

Harmonie Sykes, a representative of the River Park neighborhood, has two children attending Verdi ES and one attending Billingshurst MS. She spoke in support of Option 1. She reminded families that variances are an option if they are rezoned.

Nicole Chewjalearn, a Special Education teacher at Verdi ES, lives in one of the neighborhoods being discussed for rezoning that would be impacted by Option 2. She commented that one of the main concerns for the ZAC is feeder schools aligning with their primary schools. She cited research on the social and academic impacts of school feeder patterns when students are pulled from their peers and moved to a different feeder school. She further commented that keeping social relationships is key to academic success and self-esteem. Option 1 allows students to stay with their peers at the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Ms. Chewjalearn told the Committee that there are seven adults working in her Special Ed classroom making it a very crowded space. She noted that, in capacity calculations, rooms are counted as classrooms even when they are not being used as classrooms.

Emanuela Heller commented on all the new development occurring in the Verdi enrollment zone. She voiced concern that it may be to the disadvantage of students and teachers if more developments go in before there is infrastructure to support them. She added that developments such as West Meadows and Meridian have Verdi ES overcrowded.

Morgan Gottier asked about the status of two new classrooms to be built on the north side of the school. She commented that they were told this would be done as soon as the school was tapped into city water, which has been completed. She told the Committee that she lives in the River Park Community, and zoned schools were the reason they bought their house. Mr. Searcy addressed Ms. Gottier's question, explaining that in 2015 the City of Reno placed a condition on a development to provide two additional

classrooms to Verdi ES. The developer entered into a negotiation with the District and paid approximately \$500K for classroom construction. This money was set aside and earmarked exclusively for use at Verdi ES.

Tessa Lucchesi lives in the Meridian neighborhood and her son attends Verdi ES. She asked what the cap is for class sizes. Ms. Ford explained that teacher ratios are set by the state of Nevada. Kindergarten has a 25:1 student teacher ratio and middle schools are set at 29:1 regardless of the enrollment at a school site. These ratios are not affected by zoning changes, but if enrollment at a school decreases enough the school could possibly lose a teacher.

The Committee received email comments from:

Harmonie Sykes

Aaron Shoolroy

Kristopher Hackbush

Bethany Star

Ty Gregg

Anthony and Char Palaferri

Lindsay Breshears

Mrs. Gonzalez

Jen Myers

Emanuela Heller

Sean Hill

Tara Sala

George Spark-Stahl

Jodi Anderson

Dora Uchel

Ms. Publico asked Mr. Searcy what the process would be to initiate the building of new classrooms at Verdi ES. Mr. Searcy explained that every fall, once the enrollment numbers have been finalized, the Capital Projects Department goes through a comprehensive facilities utilization analysis that informs recommendations to their 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year Capital Improvement Programs. Projected developments, actual enrollments, and anomalies are taken into account to make adjustments on an annual basis. The department is currently working on this analysis and it will be presented to the ZAC in the spring.

Mr. Rogers went through the guiding principles as they relate to this rezoning decision. He noted that the proximity to school issue is well served by Option 1. The 4<sup>th</sup> St. corridor in terms of safety has been addressed by providing transportation services. The availability of space issue is also served by Option 1, giving Verdi ES more room while not affecting space at Gomm ES. Transportation is covered in both options. Both options address and provide for potential growth in the Verdi enrollment zone.

It was moved by Ms. Publico and seconded by Ms. DeHaan that **the Zoning Advisory Committee recommend the Board of Trustees approves the recommended Option A-1 changes to the attendance zones impacting Robert McQueen HS, Verdi ES, Roy Gomm ES, Billingham MS, Swope MS and Reno HS effective beginning with the 2022-2023 School Year.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Polly Boardman, Caylin Campbell, Kristen DeHaan, Kristie Essa, Natalie Ghysels, Amy Howe, Christine Hull, Adriana Publico, Tyler Rogers, Lauren Rushing, and Brooke Snyder) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

Ms. Ford explained to the public that the ZAC makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees and this recommendation will be heard at the regular Board meeting on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. The Board must approve and accept the recommendation before it is final.

**2.03 Information and Discussion on Possible Attendance Zone Changes to the Following Schools in the South Meadows Area of Washoe County as a Result of Approval of a New Elementary School in the Rio Wrangler Area: Brown Elementary School, Double Diamond Elementary School, and Nick Poulakidas Elementary School**

Chair Hull explained that this agenda item is for information and discussion only. The ZAC will be hearing this information for the first time and will not be making any decisions on it at this meeting. There will be more discussion on this item at the January 2022 meeting of the ZAC. Ms. Ford noted that, to accommodate the South Reno community, future meetings on this item will be held at Poulakidas ES in January, Depaoli MS in February, and Herz MS in April. This item was moved to the agenda because the Board recently approved the building of a new school in the Rio Wrangler area.

Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, showed the existing zoning boundaries around the property where a new elementary school, as yet unnamed, will be built in the Rio Wrangler area. The existing and projected enrollments for Double Diamond ES, Poulakidas ES, and Brown ES indicate a need for another elementary school in the area. Brown ES is currently at 99% of capacity and is projected to increase to 107% in the 2022-23 school year. Poulakidas ES is currently at 129% of capacity and is projected to increase to 132% in the 2022-23 school year. Double Diamond ES is at 76% of capacity. The new school is projected to open for the 2023-24 school year.

In the 2019-20 school year, the ZAC spent time developing the enrollment zone for Herz MS. This created a split feeder situation where some neighborhoods going to Brown ES matriculated to Depaoli MS and some matriculated to Herz MS. This action was taken with the knowledge that there would eventually be a new elementary school in the area at which time the split feeder situation could be reconciled. The original proposed

enrollment zone for the new school would take a portion of students currently zoned for Brown ES and a portion currently zoned for Poulakidas ES. As the area has developed differently than was projected two years ago, the original proposed zones do not result in an ideal enrollment distribution for the four schools. With this configuration, the 2023-24 school year enrollments are projected as 99% for Poulakidas ES 99% , 75% for Brown ES, 78% of Double Diamond ES, and 72% for the Rio Wrangler area ES.

In the proposed expanded attendance zone, the boundary for the new school would extend north on Rio Wrangler Parkway instead of south to Damonte Ranch HS, and then cut up a drainage. In this scenario, the neighborhood behind Damonte Ranch HS would be zoned for the new elementary school instead of remaining in the Poulakidas ES attendance zone. An aerial photo of the area shows that this is a logical place to potentially draw a boundary line because there is no roadway connecting the neighborhoods and the boundary runs along a major drainageway. The projected enrollment impact for the 2023-24 school year with the expanded zone puts Brown ES at 75% of capacity, Double Diamond ES at 78%, Poulakidas ES at 87%, and the Rio Wrangler area ES at 84%. The result is a good enrollment distribution across the four schools. The Brown ES and Double Diamond ES zones are relatively built out and stable. The Poulakidas ES and Rio Wrangler area ES zones have more development projected over the next ten years, including the Daybreak and Talus Valley developments in the Poulakidas zone. This impact will be further analyzed and presented to the public in the coming months.

The next steps will include meetings in 2022 in the South Reno community, multiple options presented that will look closer at current enrollments and projected impacts of planned residential development, and recommendations for enrollment boundary adjustments anticipated for the 2023-24 school year.

Chair Hull disclosed that her children attend Poulakidas ES and noted there have been multiple zoning changes in this area. She commented that she appreciates the work of Mr. Searcy and his staff in striving to impact the fewest possible students while making the enrollment distributions of these school as even as possible. She opened the meeting to discussion.

Ms. Ghysels asked if the area is completely built out or if there will be more building. Mr. Searcy replied that the area is not built out and there will be more residential growth. They have a good understanding of where and when residential development will occur and take that into account when developing projections. It is the nature of a high growth area to create a cycle of growth, overcrowding, school infrastructure development, and rezoning. Mr. Searcy added that it is their job to understand, forecast, and plan accordingly.

Chair Hull commented that South Reno is similar to the expansion experienced by the Spanish Springs area 15-20 years ago. She noted that the projected enrollment numbers take in account, as best they can, the approved and proposed growth in the area

Ms. Essa asked if the enrollment numbers include 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Mr. Searcy explained that all of the elementary schools in this area are kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders attend middle school. Ms. Essa asked if this option eliminates the need for year-round school. Mr. Searcy answered that none of the schools are currently year-round or multi-track. He added that Brown ES and Poulakidas ES currently have multiple portable classrooms and noted that portables are not included in base capacities.

Ms. DeHaan asked why the projected enrollments at Brown ES decrease steadily over the next ten years. Mr. Searcy replied that this can be reflective of an aging subdivision. He added that the Brown ES enrollment zone is relatively stable.

Ms. Publico asked for clarification on the feeder pattern in the area. Mr. Searcy confirmed that Brown ES to Herz MS and Depaoli MS is currently the only split feeder in the area.

Chair Hull opened the meeting to public comment.

Jen Lassi wanted to clarify that this change would not happen until the 2023-24 school year. She expressed support for the new elementary school and commented that Poulakidas ES and the teachers are currently overwhelmed.

The Committee received email comments from:

Shawna Jones

Candance Kingsolver

Kari Gannon

Devon Church

Megan Duggan

Julie Kewanyama

Ansley Winter

Laurel Ballentine-Muchicko

John Ott

### **3. Closing Items**

#### **3.01 Public Comment**

#### **3.02 Announcement of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Zoning Advisory Committee would take place on Thursday, January 20, 2022.



### 3.03 **Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Committee, Chair Hull declared the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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**From:** Shoolroy, Aaron  
**Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 12:00 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** Zoning changes for Reno High School

Dear zoning committee,

I am writing to advocate that any changes being considered to the Reno High School zone should take into account that Reno High is currently overcrowded and any addition of students would be detrimental to students and staff. I feel that the stated capacity of 2,162 students is highly inaccurate as currently we have zero empty classrooms, roving teachers teaching on other teacher's prep periods, 2 mobile classrooms in use (not included in the stated capacity), and one teacher teaching English in the Theater. This is with a current population of 1,950. Any zone change options that would increase Reno High's population should not be chosen in light of this.

Thank you,

Aaron Shoolroy  
Science Faculty  
Reno High School

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**From:** Ansley Kendziorski Winter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 7:52 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Southeast Schooling

Good evening,

I cannot attend the committee meeting tomorrow 11/17/21 but thank you for taking my questions and concerns.

Currently we live on Parma Court and can safely walk to and from Brown ES. I would like WCSD to consider the cost saved to the district and tax payers by keeping our region of KB homes, just north of Curti Ranch Road zoned for Brown ES.

With this consideration, buses will not be needed for this region, thus saving some costs that can be applied to other aspects within the district.

Also, can you please answer to any rezoning for middle and high schools for South East Reno for the 2022/2023, 2023/2024 school years?

Could the meeting please be recorded on Zoom or minutes shared at the completion of the committee meeting?

Thank you for time and please respond to confirm the receipt of this email.

Sincerely,  
Ansley Winter

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**From:** Anthony and Char Palaferri  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 12:26 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Zoning

I think everyone west of Beaumont should be able to stay at the schools our kids are at. We were promised a school to be built in Sommersett and that never happened. We bought our house do to the schools we were zoned for I have one at Billinghamurst and one at McQueen and they should be able to stay with friends and sports teams.

Thank you

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2021 7:17 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rezoning at Verdi

Hello!

I'm a parent of two kids that currently go to Verdi elementary and we are at risk of getting moved to Gomm. I would like to share that this would break my kids hearts. They've been at the same school for years and should get the chance to stay there. After all of the disruptions and challenges they've already faced in the last two years, having to swap schools and create a whole new social structure would be so challenging.

Also- Gomm is wildly overcrowded and has no room for more kids. Meanwhile Verdi has lots of room to expand and can take many more kids before it's full.

Please don't rezone the Mayberry Park neighborhood to Gomm. You would be uprooting so many families and disrupting what's already been a tumultuous few years just as we are getting back to a safe and healthy emotion growth space.

If you would like to talk to me in more detail, please call me at [REDACTED]

Thank you-  
Bethany

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**From:** Candace Kingsolver  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2021 8:25 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Zoning concern

\*please note that this is a repeat email, however, the photo I attached at the bottom was highlighted incorrectly, so I copied and pasted this email with the correct highlighting\*

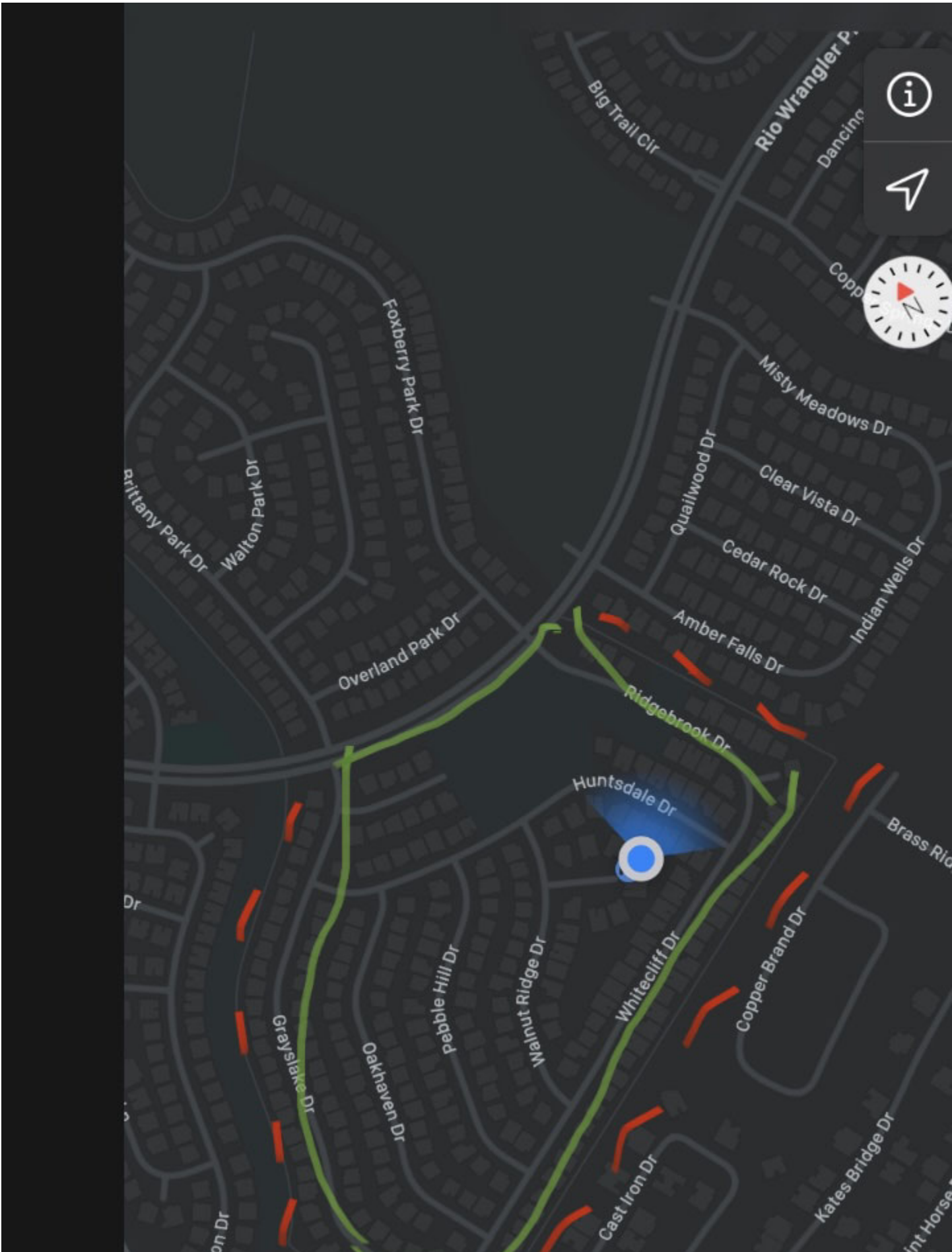
Dear committee,

I am sending my thoughts regarding the zoning changes due to the Rio Wrangler new school. I have spoke to several others within my neighborhood and have decided to send an email on behalf of all of us.

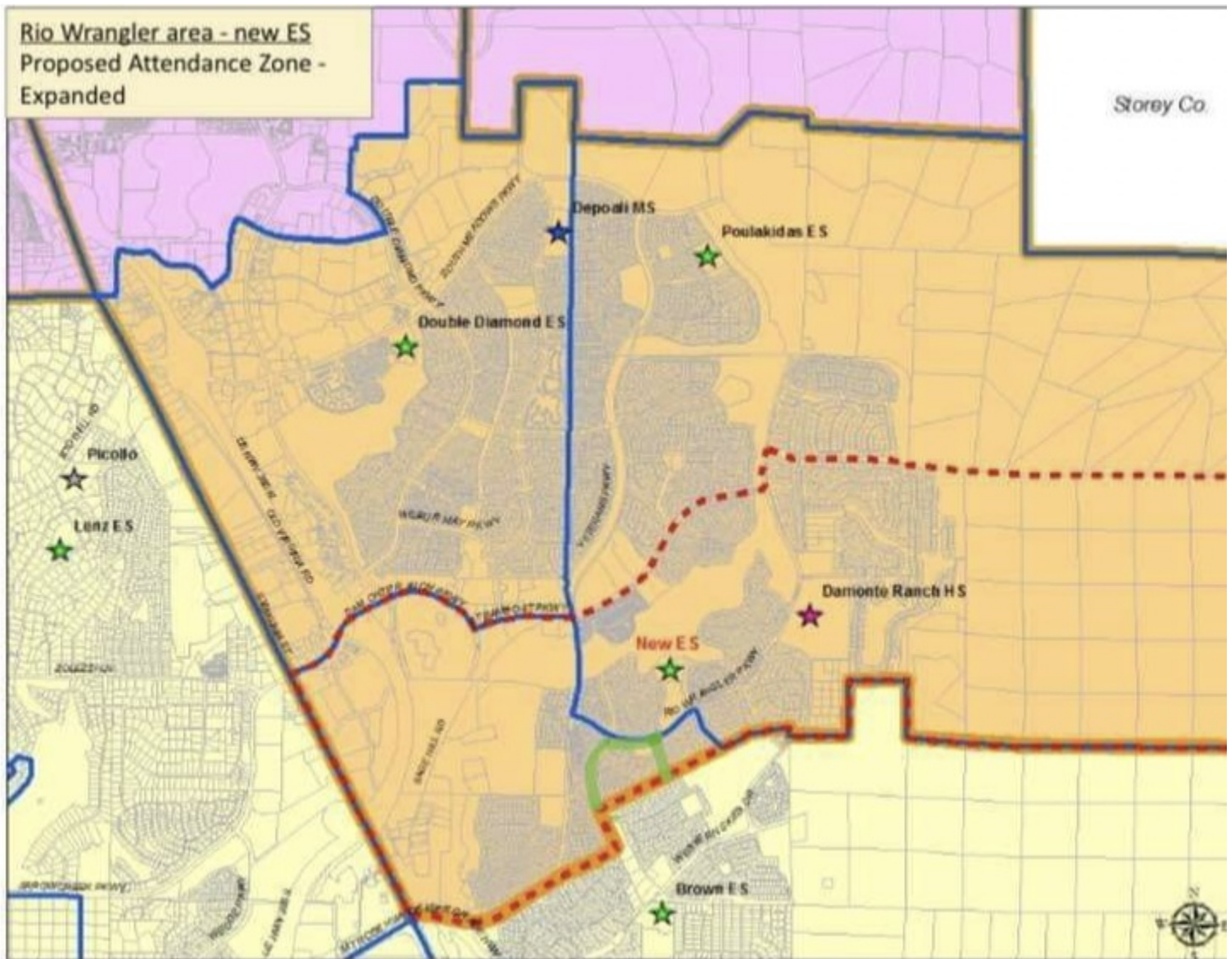
Our neighborhood section is directly connected to walking trails that lead to Brown school. Several of our kids utilize these walking trails to safely get to and from school. I ask that the section so closely connected to said walking trails, stays included in the Brown school zone. I have attached a map photo showing the section I am bringing to your attention.

The green represents the area that has direct access to the walking trails leading to Brown school. The red highlights these walking trails that I am talking about for you to see. The trail cuts off at Ridgebrook and on behalf of several others in this neighborhood, I request that this is strongly considered to be kept within the Brown school zone when discussing this at the meeting.

Several students walk to and from school at the advantage of these safe walking trails and crossing Rio Wrangler to the new school is a huge safety concern for all of us, as it is a very busy street. Being that our neighborhood is unique to these trails, and others along Rio Wrangler are not, I kindly ask for this to be considered.



This next photo just highlights the area I'm talking about on your current proposal. I used my own green highlight to put it in perspective.



Thank you for your time,

Candace Kingsolver

Sent from my iPhone



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**From:** Emanuela Heller  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 10:29 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] new zoning info?

Hi,

I can't find the information about how the new zoning would look like.  
My address is [REDACTED] Reno 89523 and it still says middle schoole Billinghurst and hight school McQueen, even for 22/23. But I've heard it would change to swope and reno high.

Where can I get the new zoning suggestion?

Thanks, Emu  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** George Spark-Stahl  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2021 12:01 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Verdi Zoning

Hi,

My name is George Spark-Stahl and I am the parent of Penelope and Sebastian Spark-Stahl. We live in the neighborhood by mayberry park, and are currently zoned for Verdi Elementary. I have heard the district is thinking about changing our zoning to Roy Gomm. While closer, I am concerned that Gomm is already so full that putting our kids there would just further increase it's capacity issues. Please look at expanding Verdi(which I thought was the plan a few year ago?) instead of transferring us to Gomm.

Thank you,

George

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**From:** Harmonie Cost  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:20 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Possible rezoning of River Park Neighborhood

Hello Members of the Zoning Advisory Committee-

I am a resident of the River Park Neighborhood and would like to vote for NOT being rezoned to Gomm/Swope/Reno. I have 3 children ages 7, 10, and 12 that currently attend Verdi and Billinghamurst. We moved to the neighborhood in 2011 in order to attend Verdi/Billinghurst/McQueen. Obviously growth happens and things need to be adjusted but I am not in favor of Option 2 that was presented. I understand the commute to elementary school would be shorter, however the distances to Swope and Reno High would be farther than the current commutes to Billinghamurst and McQueen. Also, Gomm does not have the physical space to absorb any more students than their 6th graders that will move up to Swope. I agree that eliminating the split feeder problem of the 4th Street corridor neighborhood is a good idea as well. I feel Adam Searcy did an excellent job explaining these variables, favoring Option 1.

I attended the zoning meetings several years ago when this issue was brought up and was relieved when no action was necessary. I thank Billinghamurst's principal for alerting parents that the issue was on the table again. I looked through the Zoning Committee website but cannot find the agenda or minutes from the October 21 meeting that opened this discussion again. Am I looking in the right place? I do think it is important that parents of kids that could be rezoned are aware of this possible change and have a chance to voice their concerns. Am I correct that action will be taken on one of the two options at the November 18 meeting?

I do appreciate all of you volunteering your time to serve the district. Thank you.  
Harmonie Sykes

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**From:** John Ott  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 10:15 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Additional classrooms needed because of new housing developments

Why didn't Washoe County require DR Horton to add classrooms to schools? There should have been a requirement for such a large development proposal. Everyone knew schools were going to be a problem. Now we get to talk about it.

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Julie Kewanyama  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 7:45 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rio Wrangler zoning

Hello,

I understand that with the new proposed elementary school, Rio Wrangler may be rezoned. I would like to provide a comment recommendation that those that are on Rio Wrangler but North of Steamboat should continue at Poulakidas especially since growth to the area will likely result in South Meadows reaching Rio Wrangler at some point and would make these kids closer to NPES rather than the new elementary school.

Julie Kewanyama

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**From:** Kari Gannon  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 1:23 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Parent Comment for 11/18 Meeting: Please consider when rezoning Rio Wrangler area students who attend Poulakidas Elementary

Good Afternoon,

I cannot attend tomorrow's meeting, however I am a parent with two children who attend Poulakidas Elementary School. I have a comment that I hope you consider. We have two sons. Our older son is in third grade at Poulakidas Elementary School. Before Poulakidas was built, we were zoned for Double Diamond and that is where he attended Kindergarten. Then Poulakidas opened and so he moved over there and has attended 1st, 2nd, and currently 3rd grade. We were very surprised to hear that there is a possibility that he might AGAIN be moved BACK to Double Diamond next year. That would mean THREE school changes by the time he is in fourth grade. And my understanding is that when the new elementary school opens, there may be yet another move to a different school. Please think about how these decisions are effecting these elementary children and their families. It is not their fault that Poulakidas was opened over capacity, and Double Diamond was left drastically under capacity when many of the students were rezoned to Poulakidas. Please consider that many of the older students were already forced to move over from Double Diamond to Poulakidas and it is a disservice to them to force them to move back at this point. In addition, there are neighborhoods, such as Cyan, which are located much closer to Double Diamond than the neighborhoods off of Rio Wrangler. It would make much more sense to rezone those areas and not force Rio Wrangler families to drive past one elementary school to get to another further down the street.

Thank you,  
Kari Gannon

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**From:** kristopher hackbusch  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 9, 2021 8:28 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Verdi rezoning considerations

Good Morning,

The Reno High Faculty respectfully advocates for option A-1 (no changes) in regards to the rezoning considerations for Verdi students. If you need further information, please let us know. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Laurel Ballentine-Muchicko  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2021 10:48 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] South Reno New Elementary School Zoning

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in for public comment regarding the south Reno rezoning related to Rio Wrangler. In looking at the initial proposal, it is clear that new developments in south Reno have significantly impacted current zoning of both Brown and Poulakidas ES. My children have attended both. We have not moved since starting schools and have been zoned for both schools. My children have experienced overcrowding, zoning changes in school and overcrowding again. They started at Poulakidas when it opened AT CAPACITY limits. They have learned in hallways, mobiles and team taught classrooms. Educators and administrators have done a wonderful job of making due with space issues, managing traffic and keeping all the kids as consistent as possible. However, it has been an issue throughout my children's learning history.

In looking at the upcoming proposed changes to the Rio Wrangler ES, it is clear that current development has stressed the schools in south Reno. It is reasonable to assume that the new ES should accommodate more children given adequate space in a new building. However, in looking at the proposed census for Brown, Poulakidas, Double Diamond and Rio Wrangler it is clear that all of the schools EXCEPT Double Diamond will be at or near capacity with any changes or development in the next year. I would like to suggest looking at the zoning for Double Diamond as the census projections are consistently at 70%, currently and in both future models. The zoning area for Double Diamond has less room for new growth and would be easier to predict outcomes of zoning changes on that school. Additionally, changes made to Double Diamond zoning would not impact middle school or high school zoning. Poulakidas, Brown and Rio Wrangler all have open space that is being developed, slated to be developed or zoned for development. I believe that being more proactive in regard to zoning would minimize impact on school census based on what we know continues to be a highly desired and developed area. I understand that every effort is made to minimize disruption caused by re-zoning. However, it is just as disruptive to be re-zoned from an over crowded school to a new overcrowded school which has been the case for many children in the area. Looking at where new development is expected will ensure less re-zoning is necessary and hopefully anticipate a more equally distributed landscape for the schools in south Reno.

Sincerely,  
Laurel Ballentine-Muchicko

  
Reno, NV 89521



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**From:** Michael Myers  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 6:16 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Zoning

Why are we allowing building and expansion without the proper infrastructures in place to prevent having to move kids from their friends and schools that they are settled in? Verdi has small class sizes this year. If it is projected to have too many kids, we have failed to follow city planning. Have we considered mobile classrooms as a stop gap? When will we put the kids needs first? We moved to an area for the chosen schools. Verdi, Billingshurst and McQueen. It is unsettling to consider that failed planning and greed will fail our kids. I am unable to attend this meeting as my son is playing in the State championship in Vegas. To consider he may not be able to play with his team next year is beyond upsetting. Do better by our kids!

Jen 😊

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**From:** lana grieve  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 6:08 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mcqueen Zoning

Hello,

One of 3 children of mine attended McQueen currently, a second will join next year and the third shortly after. If we already attend McQueen prior to a zoning change, will we potentially be removed from McQueen if the zone changes? Or is the zoning change for future students only? Do you have the proposed zoning changes you can share with me since I cannot attend the meeting?

Thank you,  
Mrs. Gonzalez

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**From:** Sean Hill  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 2:31 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Zoning for Verdi

My name is Sean Hill and my 2 sons attend Verdi Elementary (1st and 5th grade). I live in the River Park neighborhood, which i've heard is the subject of potential rezoning.

My family would be saddened if our kids were rezoned. Our oldest son has had trouble with academics due to a diagnosed learning disability and he has found a community with the students at Verdi. As he enters middle school next year, I'm afraid his social and academic success would suffer if he was removed from his zoned schools and friendships.

Please do not change the zoning for the River Park subdivision.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions:

Sean Hill



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**From:** Jones, Shawna  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2021 8:46 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Zoning Concerns

My son attends Nick Poulakidas and we live at 2770 Drum Horse Ln. His father and I work very busy full time jobs and will not be able attend the meeting that is scheduled! I would truly appreciate more information as I feel the message we received was very vague.. Any re- Zoning maps that could be and should be shared would be greatly appreciated so we are fully en-formed on the changes and can actually make an informed decision! Thank you!

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**From:** Tara Sala  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2021 9:05 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Cc:** Smith, Elizabeth A; McNeill, Kristen  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Zoning for Reno High School

I am writing in regards to the over crowding situation at Reno High School. When pulling up the enrollment at Reno High School it seems that at 1,950 students, the school is at 90 percent capacity. As many of you know this is the oldest school in our district. It is two stories, it has small hallways and stairways and it sits in the middle of a neighborhood with no space to add. It has become a safety issue to be inside this school. I invite you to visit the school during passing. Not only is the school over crowded, but this new addition of 450 students has caused a huge safety issue. As you can imagine with that many students in one building there is an increase in violence and fights are happening on a daily basis.

What saddens me the most is that this re-zoning came from students who were zoned for Galena High School. The enrollment at Galena is at 1,508 students. The school is much bigger, much newer and has much more space and houses less students! The parents and the community of Reno High School are trying to understand why this change was made? We are also trying to understand why the district can add 450 new students in one year and not give the school the supports that it needs. Where are the extra campus police or gang unit to help with the increasing problems due to too many kids in too small of a space? My child doesn't always feel safe at school. Videos of fights circulate social media way too often. Something has to change. Please consider re-zoning the Reno High School district.

Thank you,  
Tara Sala

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**From:** Gregg, Ty  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 9:20 AM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Subject:** 22-23 Re-Zoning

Hello,

If my address is affected by re-zoning for 22-23 school year at the elementary level, would my child be impacted if she is going to be a fifth grader next year?

Thank you in advance.

Ty Gregg

Hi,

I apologize that I am unable to attend the rezoning meeting in person today, Thursday, November 18.

I would like to share my concerns about the suggested changes and my 'vote' for Option A-1 to minimize the number of students impacted.

For many of us, we purchased homes based on the schools zoned for that neighborhood. This is the case for us which includes elementary, middle and high school. We are in our 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Verdi and the thought of changing my child now due to rezoning is very concerning and disappointing. Additionally, the impact that Covid has had on so many children has been unprecedented and adding a school change to that isn't healthy in many cases.

I understand that, at times, rezoning is required. However, I sincerely request that you keep the number of children impacted to the minimum level given the decisions families have made and the impact to these children. If one of the options is required, PLEASE choose Option A-1.

Thank you,

*Jodi*

**Jodi Anderson**

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**From:** Dora Uchel  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2021 5:36 PM  
**To:** Zoning  
**Cc:** Scott Youngs; kim Glass  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Violation of ADA 504 and the rehab act of 73

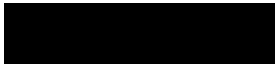
To whom it may concern, you are putting this meeting where there is no transportation whatsoever to get there you may not be aware of this but there is a RTC drivers strike... as a parent with a disability I don't have a car or means to get there we ask that you would be more mindful and consider people with disability when doing these public meeting perhaps you should provide a zoom link so we could be heard and seen doing public comment as you may remember not everybody has a Wi-Fi capability if you would've held this meeting at A McQueen high school we would've been able to attend in person. appreciate your time

In the future be more inclusive with your public meeting...

Watch your thoughts, because they become your words. Watch your words, for they become your actions. Watch your action, for it becomes your habit. Watch your habits, for they become your character. Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.

Best,

Dora Uchel-Martinez (she/her)



Nevada Disability Peer Action Coalition Advocate