



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 18, 2024

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager Approved Electronically

FROM: Angela Fuss, Assistant Director Development Services 

SUBJECT: Mater Academy Appeal (MUP24-00010)

This memo has been prepared to provide Council with additional correspondence between the Washoe County School District (WCSD) and the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) staff. Mater Academy is proposed to be a 1,500 student charter school serving grades K-12. Primary access into and out of the site will be off North Hills Drive to the west. The project triggered review of a Minor Conditional Use Permit, which is a staff level review that does not go to Planning Commission. The project was recommended for approval and has been appealed by five separate appellants to City Council. In an effort to make sure all Council members receive the same information, the attached e-mail between the WCSD and RTC has been provided.




RE: Mater Academy North Valleys - Traffic Study

Dale Keller <dkeller@rtcwashoe.com>

Thu 7/11/2024 5:08 PM

To:Chisholm, Kyle W <Kyle.Chisholm@WashoeSchools.net>

Cc:Searcy, Adam T <Adam.Searcy@WashoeSchools.net>;Jeffrey Wilbrecht <jwilbrecht@rtcwashoe.com>;Kerrie Koski <KoskiK@reno.gov>;Khalil Wilson <WilsonK@reno.gov>;Angela Fuss <FussA@reno.gov>

 1 attachments (192 KB)

Mater Academy - RTC Comment Letter.pdf;

Kyle – thank you for your patience. Please see my response below to your questions.

The 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) specifically identifies the Buck Drive Widening Project and the North Hills Boulevard Widening Project.

The RTP is our region's comprehensive long-term transportation planning document. It currently indicates the Buck Drive Widening Project and the North Hills Boulevard Widening Project within the 2026-2030 timeframe. However, the prioritization and allocation of funding are subject to the decisions made by the RTC Board of Commissioners, in line with the RTP, the Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP), and the regional road pavement preservation program.

Under the Fiscal Year 2024 Street & Highway Projects Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) for the RTC Street & Highway Program, RTC staff has received project authorization for the Buck Drive Widening Project, spanning from Lemmon Drive to North Hills Boulevard. The final design for this project is currently underway, with construction tentatively scheduled for spring 2025.

Conversely, the North Hills Boulevard Widening Project, from Golden Valley Road to Buck Drive, is not included in RTC's five-year program of projects, known as the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). As such, funding for its design or construction has not yet been identified or prioritized.

The RTC has completed its review of the Matter Academy Traffic Study. The comments from our staff have been provided to the City of Reno, and I have attached the letter for your reference. The RTP adopts Level of Service standards for regional roadway facilities, which include Golden Valley Road and North Hills Boulevard, both classified as regional roads. In contrast, Beckwourth Drive is designated as a local street. Given that North Hills Boulevard experiences non-stop conditions at Beckwourth Drive, it represents free-flowing traffic.



Dale Keller, P.E.
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Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County

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Building A Better Community Through Quality Transportation

From: Chisholm, Kyle W <Kyle.Chisholm@WashoeSchools.net>
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 11:49 AM
To: Dale Keller <dkeller@rtcwashoe.com>
Cc: Searcy, Adam T <Adam.Searcy@WashoeSchools.net>
Subject: Mater Academy North Valleys - Traffic Study

WARNING - This email originated from outside the RTC: Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Dale,

I have a couple questions about the Mater Academy North Valleys project on North Hills and their final traffic study (attached). And more specifically, the "planned" RTC improvements copied below, which the study relies on heavily.

- Are the below noted projects in the RTP currently?
 - If so, are these projects guaranteed or subject to change?
 - If so, are they fully funded?
- Based on my read of the traffic study, and even with the below improvements completed, based on the table excerpt below, it seems that North Hills/Beckwourth and Beckwourth/Golden Valley intersections still do not meet the Policy LOS, which is identified as a "D" in the traffic study. Is my assumption here correct?

Any insight you can provide on this would be helpful.

Thank you,

Kyle Chisholm

School Property Planning Manager

Washoe County School District, Capital Projects

Office: (775) 789-3810

Email: Kyle.Chisholm@WashoeSchools.Net



Widening design RTP Complete Street Project Listing (2026 – 2030)

- North Hills Boulevard - Golden Valley Rd. to Buck Drive: Widen Roadway
- Buck Drive – Lemmon Drive to North Hills Boulevard: Widen from 2 to 4 lanes

Table 7: 2043 Background and Project Intersection Level of Service

Intersection	Control	AM		PM BELL		PM	
		Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS
North Hills/ Beckwourth Drive	Side Street Stop						
Eastbound Approach		119.7	F	44.9	E	87.9	F
Westbound Approach		49.4	E	47.6	E	19.2	C
North Hills Boulevard/Golden Valley Road	Signal						
Overall		37.8	D	46.8	D	33.5	C
North Hills Boulevard/Buck Drive	Signal						
Overall		22.6	C	24.5	C	26.5	C
Beckwourth Drive/Golden Valley Road	Signal						
Overall		74.4	E	37.6	D	30.7	C

As shown in **Table 7**, the intersection of North Hills Boulevard and Beckwourth Drive will experience excessive delays.