



**CITY OF HENDERSON**  
240 S. Water Street  
P.O. Box 95050  
Henderson, NV 89009-5050

September 18, 2019

Ms. Rebecca Feiden  
State Public Charter School Authority  
2080 East Flamingo Road Suite 230  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Subject: Letter of Support for Alakai Heritage Academy Application

Dear Ms. Feiden:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the 2019 Summer Cycle Charter Applications. As you are aware, Alakai Heritage Academy (AHA) has identified Henderson as a potential location for their future school site. The City of Henderson supports the application for AHA.

Residents of the City of Henderson place the quality of a public-school education as a top priority. The Henderson Strong Comprehensive Plan seeks to support educational institutions in providing high quality K-12 learning environments to prepare today's youth for future success. The Plan also indicates that Henderson intends to remain a welcoming place for people from diverse backgrounds, ages, ethnicities, languages and incomes.

The application for AHA appears to address these goals and also creatively engages the underserved student populations as identified in the 2019 Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment. Furthermore, all of the schools located in the area AHA is proposing to locate are more than 100% over program capacity, with multiple schools in the area at more than 125% over program capacity. AHA addresses the severe overcrowding by proposing to locate in an area with these issues, which indicates a commitment to delivering a quality public school education conducive to learning, safety, and sense of belonging for all students.

The applicant should review the [City of Henderson Development Code](#) for school siting requirements. The Code requires siting and designing schools in a manner that positively influences students' learning environment. The Code prioritizes locations and designs that allow a maximum number of students to walk or bike to school; safe and efficient multimodal access, parking, and circulation; separation from noise and environmental pollution; integration with neighborhood parks and community services; and sufficient space for outdoor recreation. AHA should give preference to students residing within a 2 mile-radius from the school to promote

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walking and bicycling to and from school. Should the application move forward, the City will work with the applicant to ensure these goals are met.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the 2019 Summer Cycle Charter Applications. We look forward to continue working with you to strengthen educational opportunities in Nevada.

Sincerely,



Lisa Corrado, AICP  
Assistant Director of Community Development

LMC:as