

Reasons the town land is inappropriate for the Charter School plan submitted at the August 21, 2024 Town Council meeting and topic of a future Town Council workshop on September 11, 2024.

Infrastructure Issues

- They want to add many new roads that are not even feasible.
- They want to eliminate an existing roadway.
- They want to move the American Legion ballfield and pavilion and horseshoe pits and replace them with parking lots. Not a good way to honor the vets who built it.
- They have eliminated the sledding hill for more parking lots.
- They are using a good portion of the town land instead of a few acres on the upper bench.
- The town originally set aside a few acres on the upper bench where the Alpine Child Development Center is located, not most of the town land.
- There are many other public services and future infrastructure the town might need that land for. Sewer expansion, a senior center, a federally run post office versus contract, county services, town services are just a few examples.
- The number one and two choices for part of the town land in a 2021 town conducted survey was a recreation center and open space.

School Specific Issues

- Their school is too close to the river.
- Their school will not be able to serve all Alpine area students.
- Enrollment will be based on a first come, first served basis.
- It will be an Alpine based school, not a school for all Alpine area students.
- Anyone can attend. Jackson, Afton, Idaho. Anyone.

Process Issues

- Why didn't they secure the land in February before they did anything else if it was vital to the project going forward?
- Why did they blindside the Town Council and Mayor with their last-minute agenda item request for the 8/21 Town Council meeting when no land request had been made prior to this?
- They seemed to have arranged to have the audience be favorable to their cause as to who was informed. They invited state officials and others to speak on their behalf when most who might have had an opposing viewpoint were not aware of this item.
- They expected an immediate decision.
- They are trying to rush a decision about the town land before the Master Plan has been completed.

- They did not mention the other land parcels identified as possible sites in their application.
- They made it seem like it was the town parcel or nothing.
- Two of the board members own and are currently annexing and developing the 32-acre Palisades parcel which was one of the 4 possible sites identified in their application.

Dual Track Issues

- The Town already committed \$10,000 of taxpayer dollars toward this cause in February to help fund the hiring of Jeff Daughtery to lobby the legislature for charter legislation and assist the education committee in working towards a regular school district school.
- Even though tasked with pursuing dual tracks, a school district run school and a charter school, it seems the donors who helped fund hiring Jeff mostly pursued the charter track.
- A regular school district school is still a possibility, especially considering the progress indicated by the article in the May 29, 2024 Star Valley Independent.
- This article reported that Superintendent Matt Erickson had formally requested the MCER study currently being conducted, to consider the possibility of the following options:
 - a Kindergarten through sixth grade format
 - an option of a Kindergarten through fifth grade format and the construction of a new middle school
 - A K-3 school in Alpine.
- That is progress. Now is not the time to give up on a district run school or claim it will take too long, another 20, 30 years or never, as some charter supporters are claiming.
- Until the MCER study is completed next year, we really don't know. Participating in the process of the MCER study can only be beneficial to our children. We need to be heard in this process.
- Our lone school board member, who is also a charter board member, has abandoned the possibility of a positive MCER outcome. This will hopefully not interfere with efforts to get a district run school through the MCER process.
- Hopefully getting a charter school will not interfere with the MCER outcome. There is the possibility they might determine Alpine cannot support a charter and a district run school.