

GENERAL

Ordinance Fact Sheet

211094

Ordinance Number

Brief Title

Approval Deadline

Amendment to Energy Empowerment
Ordinance 150299

Reason

Giving authority to the City Manager or his designee to authorize and authorizing owners to designate lessees as responsible parties

Details

Positions/Recommendations

Reason for Legislation

To lessen the burden on city staff and building owners by allowing building owners to submit exemptions to the City Manager or his designee for terms longer than one year. To help increase compliance with Ordinance 150299 by allowing building owners to designate their lessees as responsible parties in the case that the lessee is responsible for utility bills during the term of their lease.

Sponsor

Programs, Departments, or Groups Affected

Office of Environmental Quality Energy Benchmarking Program, owners of buildings above 50,000 sq ft. and lessees of buildings above 50,000 sq ft.

Applicants / Proponents

Applicant

City Department
Office of Environmental Quality

Other

Discussion

The Energy Empowerment Ordinance requires owners of buildings 50,000 SQFT or greater located in the Kansas City, Missouri municipality to submit energy and water consumption to the City. The goal of the program is to help businesses and residents to save money on their utility bills and create local jobs in energy efficiency while reducing the carbon footprint of Kansas City's largest buildings. The program also helps local energy utilities, non-profits, and the City government target future financial and technical assistance to these facilities.

Under the current ordinance, building owners that are exempt from reporting due to the type of facility or process must still request an exemption each year or be considered non-compliant with the ordinance. This change will allow building owners that know they will be exempt from reporting to request an ongoing exemption from the City Manager or his designee. Out of the average 75 exemption requests we receive each year, ~50 of them would qualify for an ongoing exemption.

Under the current ordinance a building owner is the party responsible for reporting energy and water data. However, under certain leasing situations, the tenant is wholly responsible for utilities in the facility. This puts the building owner in non-compliance with the ordinance if they are unable to get utility data from their lessee. It also puts them in the place of being responsible for entering their tenants data into the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager system. Allowing the lessee to be designated as the responsible party allows the lessee to enter their utility data directly into ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager without involving the building owner and track their energy efficiency progress. It also allows OEQ and energy efficiency partners to reach out to lessees directly to educate them on rebates and technical assistance. Currently, 9 exemptions have been submitted by building owners, who are unable to obtain utility data from their lessees.

Opponents

Groups or Individuals

None Known
Basis of opposition

Staff Recommendation

For

Against

Reason Against

Board or Commission Recommendation

By

For Against No action taken

For, with revisions or conditions
(see details column for conditions)

Council Committee Actions

Do pass

Do pass (as amended)

Committee Sub.

Without Recommendation

Hold

Do not pass

Details

Is it good for the children?

N/A for this

How will this contribute to a sustainable Kansas City?

Reducing energy consumption is one of the most significant ways to achieve the goals of Kansas City's Climate Protection Plan. Increasing compliance with the ordinance and reducing the reporting burden on staff and businesses allows more time and effort to be put towards educating on the value of energy efficiency upgrades.

Policy/Program Impact

Policy or Program Change	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes This is a program change that does not affect the policy aspects of the Energy Empowerme Ordinance.
Operational Impact Assessment	These changes will have a positive impact on operations. Allowing blanket exemptions will decrease the amount of time the OEQ Sustainability Analyst spends on routing and approving exemptions each year.

Finances

Cost & Revenue Projections -- Including Indirect Costs	No change is expected
Financial Impact	None is expected
Fund Source (s) and Appropriation Account Codes	N/A

(Use this space for further discussion, if necessary)

Applicable Dates:

Fact Sheet Prepared by:

Lara Isch
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Date -- November, 10 2021

Reviewed by:

Date --

Reference Numbers