Dear Honorable Mayor Lucas & TIO Committee Members,

I am writing to express my opposition and concern over ordinance 210182...

I fear this ordinance will not solve the issue attempting to be addressed but rather will disproportionately punish and ultimately incarcerate young members of the african american and hispanic community.

Years of 'tough on crime' approaches demonstrated by the state of Missouri have proven to fail to deter crimes while also exacerbating our over incarceration crisis. I see this resolution having the same result.

On almost exactly the one year anniversary of the police killing of Donnie Sanders, this ordinance will embolden the police force to carry out the very same actions for the very same reasons that led to the unnecessary and cruel killing of Mr. Sanders.

I fear that not only will this ordinance fail to address the issue while also punishing young members of our community but it also neglects measures that are proven to reduce this type of behavior. As a practicing urban designer I have seen first hand how design impacts behavior. Taking a preventative design approach to this issue can to help remediate the problem without further compounded the chronic issues observed between the community and the police system. In addition, taking preventative design measures can also provide benefits to the community as a whole by creating safer, more walkable, healthier communities. Taking a design approach to this issue can help us meet our Vision Zero, sustainability, and overall quality of life goals.

Unfortunately, from my perspective this ordinance provides no benefits to the community, fails to prevent the issue at hand and further jeopardizes the youth and young adults largely of the african american and hispanic community.

Please consider dropping this ordinance and focusing efforts on a preventative design approach to remediate the problem and provide community benefits to all of Kansas City.

Sincerely,

 DuRon Netsell
 Principal, Street Smarts Design + Build
 Lead, Better Block KC