
Fw: Vote For Ordinance No. 260137, Against Ordinance No. 260144

From West, Daliah <Daliah.West@kcmo.org>

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To West, Daliah <Daliah.West@kcmo.org>

From: Don Wallace <123dhwallace@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 7:05 PM

To: Public Testimony <Public.Testimony@kcmo.org>; Clerk <Clerk@KCMO.org>; Parks-Shaw, Ryana <Ryana.Parks-Shaw@kcmo.org>; Willett, Nathan <Nathan.Willett@kcmo.org>; Bunch, Eric <Eric.Bunch@kcmo.org>; Melissa Patterson Hazley <Melissa.Patterson-Hazley@kcmo.org>

Cc: Bough, Andrea <Andrea.Bough@kcmo.org>; Lucas, Quinton <Quinton.Lucas@kcmo.org>

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February 2, 2026

Members of the Kansas City, City Council Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee

I am writing to urge your Committee to vote FOR proposed Ordinance No. 260137 and AGAINST proposed Ordinance No. 260144. This comment will be submitted to the City Clerk for posting on both proposed ordinances as public comment.

These proposed ordinances are diametrically opposed to one another, with the latter proposal serving only to undermine the Council's process identified in Council Resolution No. 251035 for the City Manager's Officer to prepare recommendations for the current adoption of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), as well as review the 2024 IECC.

Proposed Ordinance No. 260137 follows on Resolution 251035 (adopted December 11, 2025), which directed the City Manager's Office to prepare recommendations for amendments to Chapter 18 and the current adoption of the 2021 IECC, including a review of the 2024 IECC, to promote regional competitiveness and ensure alignment with neighboring municipalities, thereby supporting consistent and efficient design and construction practices for all builders.

Proposed Ordinance No. 260137 would require that there be conducted a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process, for gathering feedback and for developing proposed amendments in coordination with City Planning and Development staff. This is an appropriate and effective process to conduct necessary stakeholder engagement for consulting with City Staff for enacting changes to the current energy efficiency standards to the City's building codes.

By contrast, proposed Ordinance No. 260144, seeks to have this Committee and ultimately the Council commit to its preferred changes to the current energy efficiency standards to the City's building codes prior to the commencement of the process identified in proposed Ordinance No. 260137. It might be possible that the proponents of proposed Ordinance No. 260144 have conducted a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process. And possibly, the proposed specific changes, being sought in this legislation, have been developed in coordination with City Planning and Development staff. But, the likelihood

that the drafters of proposed Ordinance No. 260144 have engaged in such a process seems remote. Neither of these possibilities are asserted in this proposal for Ordinance No. 260144.

The opaque and stakeholder-excluding process that led to proposed Ordinance No. 260144 should not be endorsed by this Committee. Instead, this Committee can inform the proponents of Ordinance No. 260144 they will have an opportunity to raise their specific proposals in the inclusive stakeholder process envisioned by Ordinance No. 260137.

Please allow for the proposed Ordinance No. 260137 to engage stakeholders and to work with City Planning and Development staff. This process has the best potential for ensuring a substantive and responsible process for evaluating how the City can best fulfill the promises made in the KCMO Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan, specifically:

B-3.1: Regularly review and update building health and performance standards.

Review building code every three years and update new construction buildings codes based on outcomes of the review, with the goal of adopting, at minimum, the most recent IECC building performance standards. Provide incentives for heat pumps, induction stoves/cooktops, and solar-ready construction if not already included in updated building codes. (Kansas City, Missouri, [Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan](#), September 2022, p. 69.)

Passage of proposed Ordinance No. 260137 will better ensure that the actions of the KCMO City Council adhere to the promises it made when it adopted the Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan with passage of Resolution 220596 which provides support for the City's effort to achieve the greenhouse emission gas reduction goals outlined in Resolution No. 200005.

Please vote to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 260137, and vote to reject proposed Ordinance No. 260144.



Don Wallace, Sixth KCMO Council District Resident
Member, Legislative Committee, Thomas Hart Benton Group
Sierra Club Missouri Chapter