From:	Mary Kay McGinty
To:	Public Testimony; Loar, Teresa; Bunch, Eric; Robinson, Melissa; kathryn.shields@kcmo.org; ONeill, Kevin; Lucas, Quinton
Subject:	Re: Ordinance 220178
Date:	Tuesday, March 1, 2022 7:17:50 PM

Dear Mayor Lucas and Councilmembers Loar, Bunch, Robinson, Shields and O'Neill,

Re: Ordinance 220178

I'm a mom worried for my daughter's future, and a member of Mothers Out Front KC. I applaud all your efforts to tackle the climate crisis we are facing, like passing Resolution 170484, declaring a climate and ecological emergency. With that in mind, I see that you are now considering Ordinance 220178 that "reaffirms Kansas City's commitment to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change". However, this ordinance does not specifically prioritize building electrification in energy performance contracts, an oversight that leaves the door open to continued use of natural gas.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has reported the urgent need to reduce methane pollution, especially from sectors such as oil and gas, where the available reductions are fastest and cheapest. It stated that methane is a more potent GHG than carbon dioxide and has been found leaking all along the supply chain - during drilling, fracking, processing and transport. In fact, recent studies show that methane leaks from gas appliances in homes, causes indoor air pollution that can increase asthma rates.

Now is the time to be clear that future energy contracts will include energy and operations analysis for **electrification**, as well as for savings and improvement opportunities in municipal buildings. If the city is committed to achieving climate neutrality by 2040, as stated in Resolution 200005, then reducing methane by blocking any future natural gas-powered heaters and appliances within municipal buildings will help mitigate climate change and create a healthier indoor environment. Installation of gas appliances, even so-called efficient ones, only further extends the city's reliance on a fossil fuel no better for the climate, or the community's health, than coal or oil. You have an opportunity, in clarifying Ordinance 220178, to make a significant impact on the city's stated climate goals.

Lastly, to demonstrate to the region, Kansas City's commitment to climate action, please consider signing **the Municipal Leaders for Electrification Pledge** (https://www.rewiringamerica.org/policy/mayors-for-electrification), as two Overland Park Councilmembers have.

Thank you for your commitment to the health and wellbeing of Kansas City.

Sincerely,
Mary Kay McGinty
4th District resident
Team Leader, Mothers Out Front KC
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