From: Kim Wallace Carlson
To: Public Testimony

 Cc:
 Jeanene Dunn; beaconhillmcfeders@yahoo.com

 Subject:
 KC Pet Project - KC Animal Control Public Testimony

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 12:59:09 PM

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Dear City Leaders:

The Beacon Hill-McFeders Community Council, the neighborhood association representing the historic Beacon Hill neighborhood in the Third District of Kansas City, Missouri, respectfully submits this public testimony regarding the lack of response, enforcement, and care for neighborhoods, people, and pets shown by KC Pet Project's Animal Services division.

The current animal control contract with KC Pet Project has led to a failure in adequately enforcing ordinances and protecting animals and people in our city. In our neighborhood, we have experienced dog attacks, unleashed dogs threatening peaceful walks, and slow response times to reports of aggressive animals.

We have discussed these concerns at multiple meetings of the Beacon Hill-MeFeders Community Council with Councilperson Patterson-Hazley present and members of KCPP Animal Services present.

We have also shown up to express these concerns at Third District meetings hosted by Councilperson Patterson-Hazley and Councilperson Robinson.

Our beloved Beacon Hill neighborhood, which we share with council members and the city manager, has reported multiple issues of loose, aggressive dogs with little to no action from KC Pet Project.

It is time for accountability and change to ensure the well-being of Kansas City's animals and neighbors.

We are asking for:

Enforcement of Animal Ordinances: Animal ordinances must be enforced consistently. Without enforcement, neglect and abuse go unchecked, harming countless animals and putting people in danger as well.

Public Input: Ensure that the community can provide input during the council's review process, as neighbors have firsthand experiences of the deficiencies in the current system.

Return Control to the City: Privatization has not worked. The City should take back control of animal services to ensure standards are met and the community's values are represented. Because of Kansas City's failure to enforce the laws, humans and animals are in constant and

consistent danger.

Transparency and Accountability: The public deserves updates and transparency throughout the decision-making process to understand how the City intends to address these concerns.

Recently, an innocent man was mauled and killed by multiple abused dogs. This tragic loss of life is one of hundreds of incidents that KCPP has refused to address.

We have warned of these concerns for years and it is horrific to see this consequence play out this year.

It is a direct result of Kansas City Pet Project's refusal to enforce ordinances that maintain the safety and welfare of animals and residents in Kansas City.

We ask you to listen to our concerns, enforce current ordinances, and DO SOMETHING to protect neighbors' and pets' safety and wellbeing.

KC Pet Project running animal control is clearly NOT the answer. There must be a new solution. We are counting on you to keep us safe.

Thank you,

Kim Wallace Carlson, Board Member, Beacon Hill-McFeders Community Council Jeanene Dunn, President, Beacon Hill-McFeders Community Council