

Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee,
KCMO City Council,
KCMO City Hall
414 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106

On behalf of the Thomas Hart Benton Group of the Sierra Club Missouri Chapter, I am writing in opposition of proposed Resolution No. 230471.

The Kansas City Council passed Resolution No. 200005 updating its Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan with goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions citywide and to become climate neutral by 2040 in order to protect the health and welfare of all our residents. **Fifteen years ago, the KCMO Council**, in approving the 2008 KCMO Climate Protection Plan, **recognized the large role of buildings and structures** in the City as consumers of energy for significant greenhouse gas emissions, and observed that adopting modern building codes is essential in addressing this role.

The **2022 KCMO Climate Action & Resiliency Plan** again recognizes the need for adopting modern **building codes** and explicitly calls for the City to:

Review building code every three years and update new construction buildings codes based on outcomes of the review, with the goal of adopting the most recent IECC building performance standards. (p.62)

But, now this Committee is being called upon to have the City turn its back on this explicit call for action, and delay by a full year the implementation of the Committee Substitute for Ordinance No. 220364, which amended Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances by updating the City's Energy Conservation Code in adopting the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code ("IECC") with a Zero-Code Appendix.

The language of this proposed Resolution No. 230471 identifies no rationale, let alone a compelling one, for the City to delay the adoption of the 2021 IECC. **There is nothing offered as far as preambular language in this Resolution to allow residents of Kansas City to understand the necessity of this delay.** A representative democracy demands that impacted residents be made aware of the reasons for such legislation and that these reasons be made a part of the language of a proposed resolution. **This complete lack of transparency suggests for residents of Kansas City that there is no legitimate reason that can be articulated for this delay.** This complete lack of transparency also suggests that, **should Council adopt proposed Resolution No. 230471, there would be no hesitation next year for another request to delay even further** the implementation of this critically necessary measure for addressing the goals of adaptation and of mitigating climate change.

Furthermore, it is anticipated that federal agencies will be offering grants for energy efficiency projects, in furtherance of the Infrastructure Act and the Inflation Recovery Act. Passing the proposed Resolution No. **230471 would jeopardize the City's present strong position to apply for these federal funding opportunities.**

To pass this proposed Resolution No. 230471 will make a mockery of this Council's recognition in Resolution 210967 of a climate and ecological emergency threatening Kansas City and surrounding communities and its approval in Resolution 220596 of the 2022 Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan with its enumerated actions that are required to address this emergency.

For these reasons we request that this Committee reject proposed Resolution No. 230471.



Don Wallace,
Member Legislative Committee
THB Group of Missouri Chapter of Sierra Club
Resident, Sixth District, KCMO

//Cc:

Mayor Quinton Lucas and
Members of the City Council