From: Adam Rossi
To: Public Testimony; Lucas, Quinton; Said, Morgan; Willett, Nathan; Williamson, Annie; Melissa Patterson Hazley; Abrought, Remy; Bunch, Eric; Iden, Marissa; Rogers, Wes; Justis, Amy; Parks-Shaw, Ryana; McCoy, Keema
Subject: Public Comment Oppose Ord. 240434: Vote No to Stop Attack on Better Buildings
Date: Monday, May 13, 2024 4:02:33 PM

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the kcmo.org organization. Use caution and examine the sender address before replying or clicking links.

Members of the Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee:

I am writing as a resident of Kansas City, MO who is very concerned about the effort to erase years of work and progress by KC to help make homes healthier, more affordable, and energy efficient. For the reasons that follow, I ask you to please vote NO on ordinance 240434 and reject the sudden, unwarranted attack on KC's energy code for the sole purpose of benefiting a small, loud minority of developer lobbyists interested in building properties cheaply to maximize their short term profits.

Like my neighbors, I care deeply about the future of my community and understand the need for our local leaders to do everything possible to address the climate emergency and the needs of our residents. To further equitable climate action, public health, and affordable housing, cities must adopt strong building energy codes in order to reduce the carbon footprint of buildings while making sure they are built to lower utility bills and keep residents healthy.

Kansas City took a major step forward in this in 2022 by adopting one of the best building energy codes in the country. The code went into effect in 2023. This policy, furthering KC's climate action goals, will save people and businesses money, reduce indoor air pollution, and drastically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions in the short term and especially the long term. The savings come from lowered energy bills from making homes more efficient; reduced health costs by improving indoor air quality and reducing illness requiring treatment; and a strengthened building economy that takes advantage of training opportunities and millions of dollars in incentives from the federal and state government in the coming years. Protecting this policy will help ensure that our children and future generations can thrive in a community that has clean air and healthy homes. KC has led the way in adopting this code, and jurisdictions throughout the metro area are working right now to match it. This proposed ordinance will ruin this progress.

The reasoning behind this ordinance attacking KC's building code are unfounded and would undo thousands of hours of work by the city and stakeholders across the KC metropolitan area. Opponents to KC's energy code cite many reasons for higher

construction costs, including inflation, a backlog of permits predating the new energy code, and market forces, but they put all the blame on a single, forward-looking policy because they believe eliminating it will enable them to make more money by building cheaply. This will not benefit customers because buildings will still be sold for maximum price. Future generations will also be harmed by being forced to live in a built environment not suited for the challenges KC will face due to lower quality buildings and a worsening climate emergency.

This is Kansas City's moment to lead once again in responding to community needs and centering human health and well-being over the short-term wealth building of a few companies and their lobbyists. The community is behind you and will work across the city and metropolitan region to ensure the code is implemented and that we continue to build a healthier, more resilient, and thriving Kansas City. **Please vote NO on Ordinance 240434 and preserve KC's better building code** in line with our city's goals.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

--

Adam Rossi
Jerusalem Farm

adampaulrossi@gmail.com
301 697 1877
520 Garfield Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64124
jerusalemfarm.org

The content of this email is confidential and intended for the recipient specified in message only. It is strictly forbidden to share any part of this message with any third party, without a written consent of the sender. If you received this message by mistake, please reply to this message and follow with its deletion, so that we can ensure such a mistake does not occur in the future.