

From: [Mary Kay McGinty](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#)
Subject: Support Ordinance 220961
Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 11:22:46 AM

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing today to ask you to please protect Kansas City's vitally important tree canopy by passing Ordinance 220961, for the health of our communities. As a mom trying to protect my child's future, I know we need to do everything we can to combat the climate crisis, and create a livable, healthier future for ourselves and our families. Our city's tree canopy has so many benefits besides the beauty it provides and the wildlife it nurtures. Urban forests help to reduce air and water pollution as well as helping homeowners keep their heating and cooling costs low. Older trees that make up the city's tree canopy, sequester much more carbon than newly planted ones and studies show that trees improve physical and mental health while strengthening social connections.

Without intervention, Kansas City is on course to lose 330 acres a year. One way to prevent this is by holding developers accountable for what they do with land and trees in KC. Additionally, growing urban forests is one of the strategies listed in the [city's climate plan](#). These plans mean nothing if we don't act on them.

Please protect the health of my family and all Kansas City residents by passing Ordinance 220961.

Thank you,
Mary Kay McGinty, Mothers Out Front KC volunteer
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4th District