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Subject: Amend Zoning Code for Data Centers
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Dear Neighborhoods Planning and Development Committee,

I urge you to ask for amendments to the currently proposed zoning code being brought to the Neighborhoods Planning and Development committee on Dec. 9th. The zoning code proposed for data centers, as currently drafted, is insufficient in protecting the interests and health of everyday Kansas City citizens.

I am a senior at the University of Missouri - Columbia who's studying Natural Resource Management with an Emphasis in Fisheries and Wildlife. In my Principles of Wildlife Management class, I did a project on Elon Musk's company, Colossus, which owns xAI, and is in Memphis Tennessee. Since its construction, carbon dioxide concentrations have gone up 79% and uses up to 1.5 million tons of water per day.

This has implications for wildlife in the area, as a Birmingham Darter is at risk of pollution in its only habitat. I am certain there will be similar repercussions in the KCMO area.

I grew up in the KCMO area. I lived in Oak Grove, graduated high school at Odessa and attended MCC at several locations and got my associates there. I am emailing you to implore you not to let these data centers take over our community, at the very least before you do the proper environmental checks.

I urge you to be proactive about minimizing these harms by creating a zoning code that allows for more oversight in the following ways. The data center zoning code should:

- Be its own zoning code rather than lumped in with Large Format Uses.
- Require special-use permits for data centers that are voted on and approved by the city council.
- Include environmental impact studies.
- Include environmental protections such as limiting water usage/cooling requirements and limiting fossil-fuel generators (including back-ups).
- Require utility demand disclosure.
- Require ample distance from residential neighborhoods.

If data center development is allowed to continue as is, Kansas citizens will be forced to bear the brunt of the cost of utility rate increases, resource extraction, and pollution. Do right by Kansas citizens and demand a more thorough zoning code for data centers.

Thank you,

Sophia Immer