From: Roland, Le"Shyeka

To: <u>Clerk</u>

**Subject:** FW: Pass the CPRP

**Date:** Thursday, August 18, 2022 1:56:24 PM

220596

**From:** Erica Flores <ericayflores17@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 18, 2022 1:53 PM

**To:** cc 1 <cc1@kcmo.org>; Bunch, Eric <Eric.Bunch@kcmo.org>

Cc: hello@sunrisemovementkc.org

Subject: Pass the CPRP

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Hi there,

My name is Erica Flores and I am a resident of the 4th district. Thank you for the opportunity to submit public feedback. I am writing to ask that you move with urgency in voting yes on the Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan without any weakening amendments.

I would strongly urge the pieces of this plan that support residents of KCMO to remain intact through the process of approving the plan. Closing the Hawthorn coal plant is of critical importance as we move toward a healthy and habitable city for all. I ask that the goal to close the plant as soon as possible remain firmly as written.

Additionally, infrastructure that directly impacts the lives of our residents should be prioritized, such as expanding public transit and working to increase the energy efficiency of homes. Kansas Citians, especially low income and BIPOC residents, deserve accessible, reliable, clean public transit. There are many national and regional organizations advocating for transit to be recognized as a human right. Transit allows the autonomy of ALL of our residents to access critical jobs, community spaces, medical providers, food and medication.

Further, expanding options for energy efficiency allows for residents to reduce their energy burden, something we desperately need in KCMO. Within Kansas City, all households spend an average of 4.5% of their monthly income on energy bills, however, this value close to doubles for low-income residents at 8.5%. This difference is felt heavily by historically marginalized members of our city, with Black and Latino residents of our city having significantly higher energy burdens at 7.9% and 6.6% respectively (ACEEE). Expanding beyond the affordability of electric and gas bills, the affordability of housing must be considered. Incorporating green social housing must remain as written in the current plan.

Finally, I would urge you to think critically about requests to aim for a "balanced" energy portfolio for our city. Abundant research tells us natural gas is not a solution to the existential climate crisis we are currently faced with, and I would urge you to keep

such language out of the plan.

To summarize, I ask that you vote yes on the CPRP without any weakening amendments, particularly in regard to closing the Hawthorn coal plant, accessible and reliable transit, residential energy efficiency measures, and green social housing.

Thank you, Erica Flores