

From: [David Dye](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#)
Subject: Support Ordinance 220961
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As climate change becomes a greater issue for Kansas City, more has to be done to protect residents and businesses from excessive heat, rainfall, and air pollution. **Trees are a natural resource which not only help to address these challenges, but also contribute to street safety and comfort for people who walk, bike, roll, and use transit.**

Trees in Kansas City's urban core remain under threat, with more than 10% of our urban forest lost to the Emerald Ash Borer and 60% of our forest deemed in fair to poor condition, according to [Bridging the Gap](#). More has to be done to protect our tree canopy and [Ordinance #220961](#) can help the city do so. How the legislation achieves this boils down to three key elements:

1. Expanding requirements for developers to have a tree preservation plan in place
2. Mandating the replacement of portions of the tree canopy removed during development
3. Defining additional ways to support the tree canopy over time

As KCMO works to become more sustainable, we have to do more to preserve and improve the built and natural environments of our city. Trees are an integral part of climate resilience and street safety.

- David Dye

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