

**From:** [Laela Zaidi](#)  
**To:** [Barnes, Lee](#); [Loar, Teresa](#); [Bough, Andrea](#); [Ellington, Brandon](#); [Justis, Amy](#)  
**Cc:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** No more concessions to developers! Pass Ordinance #220961  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 12:35:17 PM

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Dear Neighborhoods Committee,

My name is Laela and I am a leader with Sunrise Movement KC. I live in the **3rd District** of KC and asking you to pass Ordinance #220961. **You made a promise when you passed a Climate Emergency, and you made a promise when you passed the Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan. You must pass this ordinance, which is the bare minimum to protect our trees, one of our only lines of defense against the climate crisis.**

Trees help to mitigate climate change by cooling our city and helping to keep our air clean. I was excited for the future of our city when the Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan passed and this is a perfect opportunity to show what the climate means to KC.

Developers will continue to shift goalposts without working to make the city a more affordable place to live, so I ask that you stand firm on this issue.

I am personally from Joplin, MO, and moved to KC several years ago. I survived the 2011 tornado. Joplin is still a community with no trees. This situation has affected my friends and family, giving us poorer air quality, exacerbating respiratory illnesses, and making summers even hotter. I do not want to see KC become this way.

Please, pass Ordinance #220961 with no weakening amendments to keep our tree canopy!

Laela Zaidi  
Sunrise Movement KC Leader  
3rd District Resident