

From: [iharritt](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#); [Barnes, Lee](#); [Bough, Andrea](#); [Fowler, Dan](#); [Loar, Teresa](#); [Ellington, Brandon](#)
Subject: SUPPORT Ord. 220961: Protect KC by Protecting Our Trees
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:22:56 PM

SUPPORT Ord. 220961: Protect KC by Protecting Our Trees

Dear Coucilmembers,

Thank you for your service representing residents of Kansas City and working to improve our well being and the quality of our lives.

I am emailing to urge you to pass the Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance # 220961.

I urge you to recognized the health, quality of life and climate change mitigation benefits of preserving and increasing the tree canopy for Kansas City residents.

Currently there are little and sometimes no incentives for developers to use practices that preserve existing trees in their developments.

I know this due to my being Co-chair of the Blue Ridge Area Quality of Live Initiative, which succeeded in helping to preventing warehouse development, next to residential neighborhoods, in which 80 acres of forrest would have been destroyed.

The goal of the ordinance is not to increase the cost to developers but rather to incentivize changing the standard practice of bulldozing all the trees on a development site to one which preserves trees to a greater degree.

Some developers claim to value trees but are raising exaggerated claims to stop the City from enacting even these very modest incentives to preserve tree canopy in Kansas City.

Ordinance # 220961 is the least our Council can do to preserve our tree canopy and reap the health, quality of life, reducing the heat island effects and climate change mitigation benefits that passage of this ordinance will yield.

Further when 35% of the tree cover is not preserved and developers do not replant trees on their sites funds are generated to plant trees where they are

most urgently needed in the city.

Again I urge you to pass the Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance # 220961.

Sincerely,

Ira Harritt

Co-chair Blue Ridge Area Quality of Live Initiative

7473 E.83 Street

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Sent from my Galaxy