From: KCLGBTQ Commission

To: <u>cc 1</u>

Cc: Platt, Brian; Kozakiewicz, Melissa; Horman, Jared; Justice Horn; Public Testimony

Subject: An urgent letter to the Kansas City Council

Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 10:21:37 AM

Attachments: January 31st Letter to the Kansas City Council.docx.pdf

OSKC HOME ARP (1).pdf

Dear Kansas City Council,

Our commission unequivocally stands with Our Spot KC and their concerns around Resolution 240046 - A resolution that would give \$7.1 Million dollars solely to the Hope Faith-Homeless Campus in the City of Kansas City.

Our commission calls on the Kansas City Council to amend this legislation and support Our Spot KC with the amount of \$1.5 Million to serve, protect, and give resources to LGBTQ+ community members in Kansas City.

Our Spot KC is a vital resource for LGBTQ+ Kansas Citians, providing culturally tailored housing and essential services such as mental health services, basic needs such as food and clothing, life skills classes, advocacy, crisis response, and community education and programming. As the only housing agency that dedicates its services to our vulnerable community, they should be provided with the necessary resources to support LGBTQ+ Kansas Citians who are not accepted or supported by mainstream religious housing or shelter agencies. Nationally recognized as a leader in LGBTQ+ housing services, Our Spot KC has the necessary expertise to ensure LGBTQ+ Kansas Citians facing homelessness are not further harmed when they seek supportive services.

In order to fulfill Resolution 220272, which directs the City Manager to "develop a plan that addresses the housing and shelter concerns, needs and options for persons who are houseless and LGBTQ in Kansas City," City Council must include LGBTQ+ serving agencies in funding allocations.

Sincerely, Kansas City LGBTQ Commission

