

City Hall
Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106

Re: Ordinance 240048

Madame Mayor Pro Tem and Council members,

On behalf of Youth Guidance and the over 700 youth we serve across the metro providing mental health, mentoring and therapy services, we support the ordinance to form the Kansas City Youth, Kansas City Young Adult and KC Futures Commissions. I am a product of the Kansas City public school system and a former adult advisory commissioner for the youth commission appointed by the Honorable Mayor Sly James.

Our young people are an integral part of our Kansas City framework. Unfortunately, many of them are not at an age to express their voice by voting. The youth commissions will give our youth a seat at the table of Kansas City democracy. These seats will help prepare them for current and future decision making as engaged citizens of our great city. Furthermore, these youth commissioners will provide much-needed advice to our city council around the needs and desires of youth. We say that youth are our future. As a proud father of two teenagers, I say the youth are our present. Since they are our present, they deserve to be present at the table of decision making. As they say in Hamilton, they need to be in the room where it happens.

On behalf of our Kansas City youth, I encourage the committee to move this resolution forward for a full vote by the council.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



Garrett M. Webster, Sr.