

**From:** [Dianne Cleaver](#)  
**To:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Katz Drugstore Building- Ordinance 210514  
**Date:** Friday, June 11, 2021 12:00:20 PM

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I am very supportive of the preservation of historic buildings and in particular the Katz Drugstore building, which is an important part of Kansas City history. At the same time, I am greatly concerned about over incentivizing projects and thought much of that issue had been addressed in the recently adopted ordinance on incentive caps. Therefore, I was surprised to hear that 25 years of abatement is being proposed for this project, particularly when the independent financial analysis completed included a recommendation for 10 years of incentives.

There is a place for incentives in development. However, as we know money from over incentivized projects takes away from funds to support public schools and other important public services.

Before moving forward, If the 25 year abatement is what is being proposed, I think the community deserves an explanation of why this project is being incentivized beyond the recommended level (which included a financial analysis). In addition, I understand the project does not include any units affordable to low and moderate income individuals. If this is the case, I think the city is using its incentives to make a value statement that I do not agree with or support. Issues of equity are at play here and we need to take every opportunity to redress the historic inequities of our community.

Preserving affordable buildings is very important to our community. At the same time there are other priorities such as support for public institutions and for affordability which hold an extremely high place in my value system, and in that of many others. I hope these are considered and by the city as well.

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