

**From:** [Saori K Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support Ordinance 220961  
**Date:** Sunday, February 5, 2023 9:43:33 PM

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Dear KC Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee,

I write in support of Ordinance 220961.

- We need to do everything we can to combat the climate crisis, and create a livable, healthier future for ourselves and our families. That includes holding developers accountable for what they do with land and trees in KC.
- Without intervention, the city's tree canopy will lose 330 acres a year.
- Growing urban forest was one of the strategies listed in the [city's climate plan](#). Plans mean nothing if we don't act on them.
- Urban forests help to reduce air and water pollution.
- Older trees sequester much more carbon than newly planted ones.
- Trees help with heating and cooling costs.
- Trees can improve physical and mental health and strengthen social connections.
- Our mayor supports this ordinance, and so does Mothers Out Front Kansas City.

Once these trees are cut down, there is no quick way to reverse the damage. Thank you for keeping these important factors in mind in your decision.

Saori Lewis