
Amend Zoning Code for Data Centers

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Dear Neighborhoods Planning and Development Committee,

I urge you to ask for amendments to the currently proposed zoning code being brought to the Neighborhoods Planning and Development committee on Tuesday, December 9th. The zoning code proposed for data centers, as currently drafted, is insufficient in protecting the interests and health of Kansas Citians.

Data centers require huge amounts of electricity, straining local grids and often relying on fossil fuels, worsening climate change. Cooling servers consumes vast quantities of water, putting pressure on local supplies. Due to the disproportionate amount of energy and water needed to both power data centers and cool servers inside them local Kansas Citians are almost certain to see our energy costs rise.

Once you take into account the fact that data centers aren't labor intensive and require a minimal workforce, any local economic benefits are overshadowed by the environmental strain, damage, and costs that will be seen and felt by those in our city and region.

I urge you to be proactive about minimizing these harms by creating a zoning code that allows for more oversight in the following ways. The data center zoning code should:

- Be its own zoning code rather than lumped in with Large Format Uses.
- Require special-use permits for data centers that are voted on and approved by the city council.
- Include environmental impact studies.
- Include environmental protections such as limiting water usage/cooling requirements and limiting fossil-fuel generators (including back-ups).
- Require utility demand disclosure.
- Require ample distance from residential neighborhoods.

If data center development is allowed to continue as is, Kansas Citians will be forced to bear the brunt of the cost of utility rate increases, resource extraction, and pollution. Do right by Kansas Citians and demand a more

thorough zoning code for data centers.

Thank you,
Ann Marie Carver
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