

**From:** [Betsy Blodgett](#)  
**To:** [Melissa Patterson Hazley](#); [Willett, Nathan](#); [Bunch, Eric](#); [Parks-Shaw, Ryana](#)  
**Cc:** [Yearwood, DJ](#); [Williamson, Annie](#); [Iden, Marissa](#); [McCoy, Keema](#); [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Data Center Development Concerns  
**Date:** Thursday, December 11, 2025 9:11:22 AM

---

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the kcmo.org organization. Use caution and examine the sender address before replying or clicking links.**

---

Dear Neighborhoods Planning and Development Committee,

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

I'm concerned that the data centers will have negative impacts on the environment in the Kansas City area. Aside from pollution and taking up huge swaths of land that could be used to benefit communities, I'm concerned about electrical and water usage that leads to increased utility rates. At a time when we need to be forward-thinking on how to minimize the strain on our electricity and water usage, this seems to be the wrong direction to take.

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:

1. Be its own zoning code rather than lumped in with Large Format Uses.
2. Require special-use permits for data centers that are voted on and approved by the city council.
3. Include environmental impact studies.
4. Include environmental protections such as limiting water usage/cooling requirements and limiting fossil-fuel generators (including back-ups).
5. Require utility demand disclosure.
6. 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,

Betsy Blodgett

--

Betsy Blodgett

[www.hellovoyager.org](http://www.hellovoyager.org)  
[www.helloatelier.org](http://www.helloatelier.org)

