From: Miranda Pratt
To: Public Testimony; cc 1
Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance NO. 250889 and 250890
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To City Council:

My name is Miranda Pratt and I'm a 4th district resident in Kansas City, Missouri. I'm writing this testimony today to oppose ordinance 250889 and 250890, the proposals for a new temporary "World Cup" jail.

This past April, I voted NO on the Public Safety Sales Tax - funds that were ultimately passed and earmarked for the construction of a new jail. It seems like Kansas City politicians can't stop talking about another jail - but my city does not need another jail, and I don't want to spend my tax money funding any such enterprise. Are we really that afraid of our neighbors that we choose to look them up instead of funding life-affirming resources and deepening community networks of care?

When Kansas City's the stage for World sporting events, I'd like our visitors to be in awe of our fast, fare-free bus system and our REACH program and alternative hotlines to 911, rather than the illusion of safety our human caging facilities provide. I'm concerned that the council is taking the easy way out - succumbing to surface level solutions like temporary jails funded by developers with connections to Guantanamo Bay, instead of investing time and thought into real alternatives to incarceration. I'd like to say I have hope in this committee to set the tone and step up for the good of Kansas City. I'd like for the council to see the World Cup as an opportunity to show the world what Kansas City's all about - taking care of our people.

I urge you to Vote NO on ordinances 250889 and 250890.

Sincerely,

Miranda Pratt