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 Dec. 9th. The zoning code proposed for data centers, as currently drafted, is insufficient in protecting the interests and health of everyday Kansas Citians.

There is already plenty of research findings to make us wary of the environmental issues; from using thousands of tons of clean water meant for our households to the increasing number of rare cancers and miscarriages residents are having who live near these data centers. I know I'm not alone in re-evaluating my long-term residency in Kansas City if these data centers are being built nearby. This truly is an instance of "the juice is not worth the squeeze."

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,
Lily Pankratz