



Outlook

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## Amend Zoning Code for Data Centers

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**Date** Tue 12/9/2025 11:41 AM

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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 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 am concerned about:

- Increased pressure on our electrical grid to power these AI centers, which will be subsidized by increasing electrical bills for citizens.
- Increased water usage to cool down these data centers, will reduce the supply of water for local homes and farmland, increase throughput on our water treatment plants which provide bare minimum federal guidelines for drinking safety.
- Environmental impact from noise pollution which cause increased stress and health conditions such as hypertension, sleep disturbances, anxiety, and migraines. Some neighbors to data centers describe it as "torture." As if we needed another reason to make people more miserable and prone to violence.
- Environmental impact on local animal populations. Data center activity interferes with migration, breeding, and animal communication. I live near the Project Kestrel site and enjoy the sights and sounds of our local fauna and do not wish to lose that magic.
- Long term loss of jobs to artificial intelligence powered by these massive data centers. The goal of AI is to remove the human element and costs of employing humans in jobs poorly done by machines. A prime example is automation in manufacturing. Where does that leave people? Many jobs will be lost to AI so these massive corporations can increase their profits. That leaves our people, jobless and impoverished.

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,

Mrs. P. K. Bhangu