

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to ask that this email be placed **ON RECORD** for Ordinance #251028.

I oppose **Ordinance #251028 as written** because it wrongly includes **natural kratom** and would punish responsible adult consumers instead of targeting bad actors.

Kratom has helped many people manage pain, reduce or avoid opioids, and improve their quality of life when used responsibly. A broad restriction or ban on natural kratom will not make people safer. It will:

- Push consumers toward **more dangerous substances**, including illicit opioids and alcohol
- Encourage **unregulated, black-market products** instead of supporting reasonable regulations
- Harm adults who use kratom safely and responsibly

Instead of banning or overregulating natural kratom, I urge the Council to support a **Kratom Consumer Protection Act (KCPA) model** that:

- Sets **age limits** for purchase
- Requires **accurate labeling and testing** for contaminants and adulterants
- Cracks down on **companies that spike products** or hide ingredients

Please protect responsible consumers and focus on **regulation, not prohibition**. I respectfully ask you to **vote NO on Ordinance #251028 in its current form** or amend it to remove natural kratom and adopt a KCPA-style regulatory framework instead.

Thank you for your time and for placing my comments on the record.

Sincerely,

Leonard Ford