

# Ordinance No. 250637

## Nuisance Code Amendment for Managed Natural Landscapes

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*Prepared for:*

Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee



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Amending Chapter 48, Code of Ordinances, entitled "Nuisances," by repealing Section 48-1, Definitions, and Section 48-30, Rank weeds and noxious plants; amending Chapter 56, Code of Ordinances, entitled "Property Maintenance Code," by repealing Section 56-433, Noxious weeds and enacting new sections of like number and subject matter, and by enacting a new Section 56-116, Excessive growth of vegetation, invasive and noxious plants and poisonous plants to the touch; amending Chapter 34, Code of Ordinances, entitled "Health and Sanitation," by repealing Article VII, Weeds and noxious plants; and amending Chapter 62, Code of Ordinances, entitled "Solid Waste," by repealing Article VIII, Nuisances.

# Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan



## Natural Systems

- ✓ N-1: Expand network of trees and natural areas
- ✓ N-2: Promote regenerative, ecologically healthy soils and landscapes
- ✓ N-3: Sustainable water supply and use
- ✓ N-4: Use natural systems to manage stormwater runoff

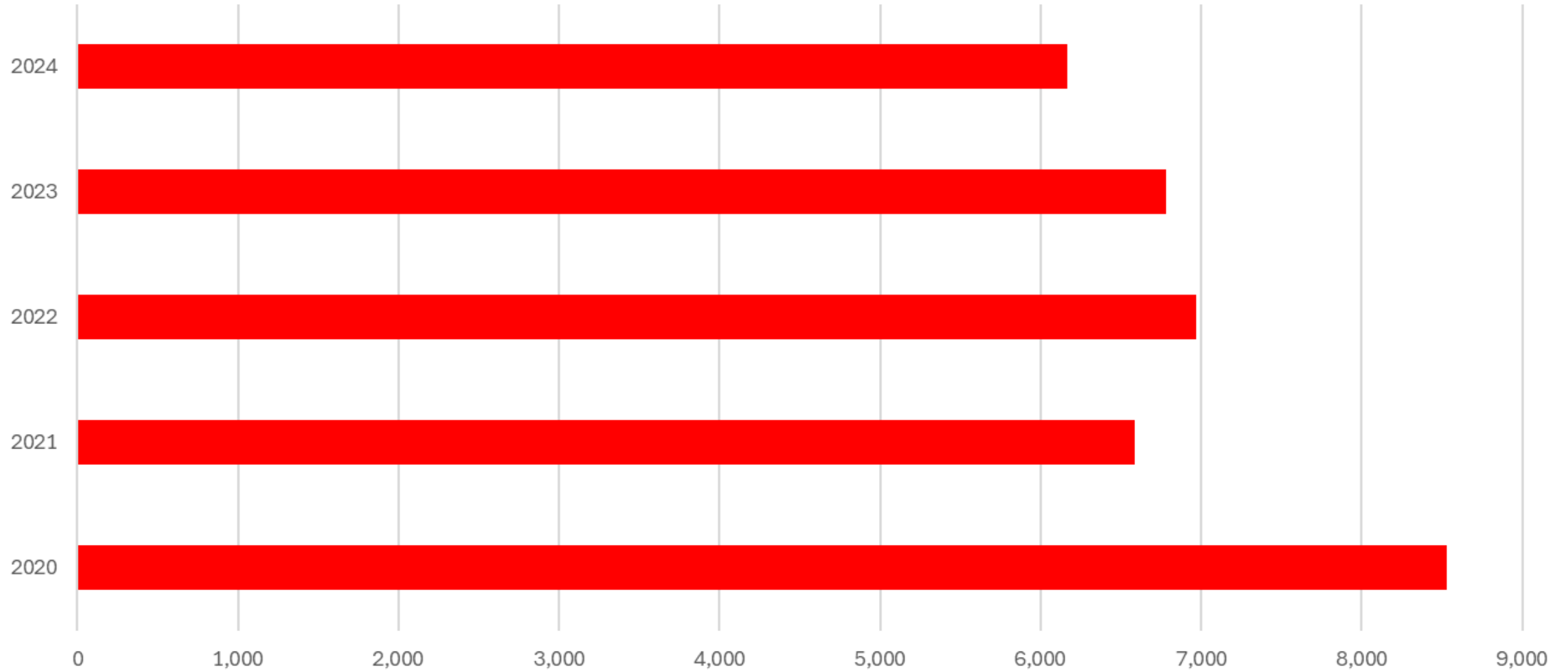
# Benefits of Proposed Code Changes

- Stormwater retention
- Improved water quality
- Ecosystem resilience
- Less costly inputs
- Increased biodiversity
- Wildlife habitat
- Erosion control



# Current “Rank Weeds” Code Language

- Thickets or any vegetation which may emit noxious odors
- Any vegetation 10 inches or more in height, including but not limited to grasses and unattended growths of other plants, bushes, and shrubbery
- Not trees in excess of 6 feet in height, cultivated or attended trees less than 6 feet in height, or cultivated or attended plants, bushes, or shrubbery

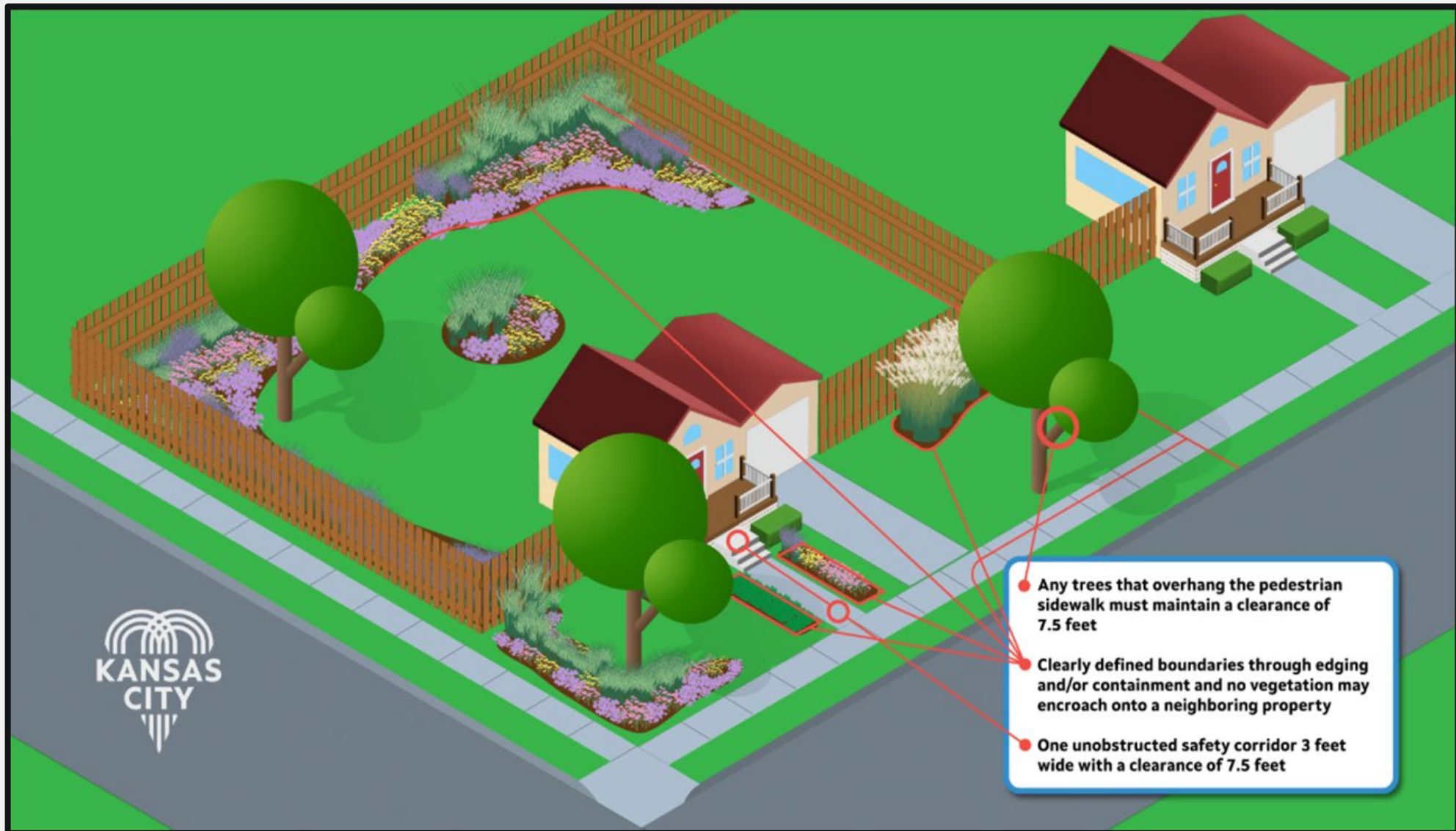
**"Rank Weed" Violations By Year**

# Managed Natural Landscape Approach

**Managed Natural Landscape:** intentionally and continuously maintained vegetation allowed to grow to its natural height for the purpose of benefiting the city's natural environment

1. No turf grass 10 inches or more in height, noxious, or invasive plants
2. Must maintain clearly defined boundaries through edging or containment
3. No vegetation may encroach onto a neighboring property or right-of-way
4. At least one unobstructed safety corridor 3 feet in width and 7.5 feet in height must be present and no vegetation shall overhang the sidewalk excluding trees with a clearance of 7.5 feet







# Updated Code Training and Roll-Out

- Contract with local native plant specialists to provide:
  - **2 trainings** for NSD Community Engagement Officers
  - **4 trainings** for Residents (North, Central, South, Virtual)
  - **1,500 native plant vouchers** for local nurseries to residents
  - **300 native landscape consultations** to residents
- An award for \$49,000 from the Missouri Department of Conservation has been secured to pay for implementation

# Additional Amendments for Consistency

- Repealing Chapter 34: Health and Sanitation, Article 7 “Weeds and Noxious Plants” (Health)
- Amending Chapter 56: Property Maintenance Code, Section 56-433 “Noxious Weeds” (Neighborhoods)
- Adding Chapter 56: Property Maintenance Code, Section 56-116 “Excessive Growth of Vegetation” (Neighborhoods)
- Repealing Chapter 62: Solid Waste, Article 8 “Nuisances” (Parks)

# Questions?