From: <u>Carol Davit</u>
To: <u>Public Testimony</u>

Subject: Support for Ordinance No. 250637 Nuisance Code Update

Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 9:35:54 AM

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Dear Members of the City of Kansas City's Neighborhood Planning and Development (NPD) Committee,

On behalf of the Missouri Prairie Foundation's 25-year-old Grow Native! program, I am pleased to support the Nuisance Code Update to Ordinance No. 250637 to offer allowances for native plants in a "managed natural landscape."

This update is completely in keeping with the City of Kansas City's updated Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan to address the climate crisis with strategies focused on both mitigating and adapting to our changing climate. Amending the current Nuisance and Property Maintenance Codes will allow residents of the City to increasingly grow native plants throughout the City and contribute to the sustainability and climate resiliency of the City.

This update will also make better use of City resources, in that code enforcers can instead focus on neglected landscapes and ones overwhelmed by invasive plants.

The Missouri Prairie Foundation's Grow Native! native plant marketing and education program has hundreds of free resources to guide the establishment and long-term care of native gardens and plantings to ensure their optimal attractiveness and ecological functionality. Many City residents already consult these Grow Native! resources, and we would be pleased to partner with the City to encourage even greater use of native plants in well planned and stewarded native landscapes.

We congratulate the City of Kansas City for crafting this nuisance code update to benefit the City and its residents.

Sincerely,

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Missouri Prairie Foundation's Grow Native! Program

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Missouri Prairie Foundation/Grow Native!'s Missouri Invasive Plant Council (MolP)