

**From:** [Paula Leppert](#)  
**To:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support Ord. 220961  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 1, 2023 3:43:11 PM

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I have lived in Kansas City, North, for 13 years and my home backs up to what I have understood to be a protected "greenway." This very small urban forest not only provides a home for the wildlife (deer, turkeys, song birds, to name a few) that graces my backyard, it also provides ever-changing beauty in all seasons; shade and cooling in the summer; cleaner air; and dampening of traffic noise. As with all trees, it also acts as a 'carbon sink' to fight climate change by taking CO2 from the air and returning breathable oxygen. But perhaps the most important thing is the peace of mind I get from being in proximity to nature.

Today, someone appears to be clearcutting this small urban forest in my backyard. 'For Sale' signs also have appeared along the edge of this "greenway" that borders a thoroughfare. This now seems to be the very troubling process in the Northland: post property for sale and clearcut all the trees, I presume so that any buyer/developer won't have to worry about conforming to the proposed ordinance referenced above. Perhaps this also increases the value of the property for sale, but I suspect that it will reduce the value of mine. Either way, this behavior has had a devastating effect along Barry Rd and Route 152. Acres and acres of old growth trees have been cut down in the last few months.

I urge the City Council to pass this ordinance with all deliberate speed, and take action to preserve our urban forests and our old growth trees, in particular.

Sincerely,  
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