From:	Heidi Schultz
To:	Melissa Patterson Hazley; Willett, Nathan; ericbunch@kcmo.org; Parks-Shaw, Ryana
Cc:	Yearwood, DJ; Williamson, Annie; Iden, Marissa; McCoy, Keema; Clerk
Subject:	Amend zoning code for Data centers
Date:	Wednesday, December 10, 2025 11:04:30 PM

Hello All,

I am a nurse in the KC metro. I was at work during December 9th's meeting and unable to attend in person or digitally. I oppose building Data centers in Kansas City and I am not alone. You have already heard from other KC residents regarding their opposition. Multiple communities in Virginia, Tucson, Arizona, Peculiar Missouri, Chesterton, Indiana have all successfully opposed building Data centers because Tech companies do not care about the communities surrounding their Data centers. Tech companies prioritize profits and harnessing the vast resources it takes to fuel and cool their centers.

I urge you to ask for amendments to the currently proposed zoning code being brought to the Neighborhoods Planning and Development committee. The zoning code proposed for data centers, as currently drafted, is insufficient in protecting the interests and health of everyday Kansas City Residents and the implications will negatively exacerbate the climate crisis through massive increases in carbon emissions and usage of fresh water resources.

Regulation is paramount when developing any new technology or business. We entrust you to discern bad deals from good deals. Building AI data centers is a lose lose situation for KC residents. Six Data centers will not yield more permanent jobs in our area. Data centers will take away our fresh water resources so they can cool the machinery. I am very concerned that the financial price for the increased energy demand will be unfairly passed on to KC residents and not the corporations building the Data centers. The noise pollution will be awful.

I want to also remind you all that we are in the midst of a climate crisis. Data centers are emitting millions of metric tons of CO_2 further producing green house gases that warm the globe. According to the World Meterological Organization, 2024 was the warmest year on record at about 1.55 Centigrade above pre -industrial level. The past ten years have all been in the top ten hottest years. This trend of global warming is undeniable. Why would we want to build Data Centers which depend on fossil fuel energy, when the planet is literally on fire and our oceans are warming? Kansas City should be investing in building and developing renewable energies such as hydro, solar, and wind and to create jobs, detract from carbon emissions, and preserve precious resources.

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:

1.
    Be its own zoning code rather than lumped in with Large Format Uses.

2.
    Require special-use permits for data centers that are voted on and approved by the city council.

3.
    Include environmental impact studies.

4.
    Include environmental protections such as limiting water usage/cooling requirements and limiting fossil-fuel generators (including back-ups).

5.
    Require utility demand disclosure.

6.
    Require ample distance from residential neighborhoods.

I strongly detest building Data centers, especially in my back yard. If data center development is allowed to continue as is, Kansas City residents will be forced to bear the brunt of the cost of utility rate increases, resource extraction, and pollution. The 379 acres of land next to the Missouri River does not need a giant Data center. Do right by Kansas Citians and demand a more thorough zoning code for data centers.

Thank you,
Heidi Schultz