From: Dennis Zimmerman
To: Public Testimony
Subject: No New Jails
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 1:19:46 PM

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Dear City Council,

Hi my name is Sarah Zimmerman. I am not a resident of KC (I live in Lees Summit) but I used to work as a social worker and substance abuse counselor at ReDiscover's midtown location. I'm here today to oppose the ordinance proposals for a new temporary jail.

Instead of investing in a temporary jail, I'd like to see money go toward long term solutions that provide stable housing, mental and general health supports, and economic stability for those who may be likely to commit a city offense.

We have an opportunity in KC to create new methods of care and accountability that actually address root causes of harm for the future of our city, not just an illusion of safety for the World Cup. As of right now, I'm very worried that this council is not doing enough to explore new possibilities that would actually help our community.

As members of this committee, you have the opportunity to set the tone for all of Kansas City. This is your chance to take seriously the need for new approaches to addressing the issue of incarceration and harm in KC. We can't afford to do more of the same. Vote NO on ordinances 250889 and 250890.

Sincerely,
Sarah Zimmerman
Sent from my iPhone