**From:** mark@la2our.com
**To:** Public Testimony; MayorQ; Curls, Darrell; Willett, Nathan; cc 1; Clerk
**Subject:** Please Omit Natural Kratom Leaf from Ordinance #251028
**Date:** Monday, December 8, 2025 4:02:33 PM

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Hello, I am a Kansas City resident. I have learned that kratom may be banned, along with a bunch of other "Gas Station" substances. I wholly agree with banning most of the synthetic substances in the list. But, the natural form of kratom leaf, which is not the same as 7O or other synthetic forms of substances that include kratom, should be omitted and continue to be legal IMO.

Why? Because natural kratom is safe. You will never, ever see someone on the streets "whacked out" on kratom leaf powder, passed out or overdosed. It is physically impossible to overdose on kratom. It produces a mild sensation that most heavy narcotic drug users find lame and not even worth the trouble to use. But, if someone wants to quit pain killers or tranquilizers and even alcohol, the natural kratom leaf powder helps ease the withdrawal symptoms and may even prevent the person from going back to the hard stuff that can kill them.

I compare the intensity of kratom to be the same as a strong cup of espresso or black tea. How do you think the public would respond if you tried to ban coffee or tea? I can't see that banning this mild, safe substance would make any sense, because it is a simple pleasure that can also assist in weaning people off of the hard stuff and may even save their lives. The synthetic kratom is something I've never tried and do not want to try. That stuff can be banned, no problem.

But, please don't include the natural form of kratom leaf in this ordinance. There are tons of documentation that proves everything I've just told you in this email.

Thanks for your time and attention.

Regards,
Mark LaTour