Large Format Use comment for Wednesday, Nov. 5

From Katie Currid <katiecurrid@gmail.com>

Date Tue 11/4/2025 9:14 PM

To Reinhardt, Jennifer <Jennifer.Reinhardt@kcmo.org>

Cc Public Engagement <publicengagement@kcmo.org>

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the kcmo.org organization. Use caution and examine the sender address before replying or clicking links.

Hi Jennifer,

I plan on attending the LFU meeting tomorrow at 9 a.m. but wanted to add my testimony in case something happens and I am not able to attend or speak during the meeting. I plan to attend online.

I also apologize if I am getting this to you late!

I have reviewed what I am able to discern from the proposed zoning category for large format uses, specifically for data centers. I am glad the city is adding an additional category for data centers, because I do think it is needed as they continue to expand quickly in the region. However, I have many concerns about data centers and I wonder if some zoning requirements could address these. I think there are holes in the zoning requirements that do not address concerns many Kansas Citians have about the rapid spread of data centers.

I see that the zoning code calls for a traffic study, but I think it needs many more studies — specifically, energy impact studies, residential economic impact studies and water usage impact studies.

My main concern about data centers is their massive power usage. New data centers typically use a lot of power — typically hundreds of megawatts, similar to the power usage of oil refineries. I am concerned about the effect this has on the city's power grid with the rate they are being built. I fear that our energy infrastructure cannot support the amount of data centers that are being built, and that we have not done enough to analyze the strain it will put on our grid. This strain can lead to higher energy bills for residential rate payers and could even lead to blackouts across the region. We need to carefully examine the load of energy for the proposed data centers, and ensure that there is enough infrastructure to withstand additional data centers being approved. We also need ratepayer protection to make sure that residents aren't footing the bill for the energy usage of data centers. Many residents across the country are seeing their power bills go up as a result of data centers — I think this should be taken into great consideration with newly approved data center projects. An energy impact study and a residential economic impact study would be key here. I see the zoning requirements request 20% solar power usage for energy, and I think this is a simple bone to throw to make it seem like the data centers are considering green energy, and I do not think it will mitigate potential problems.

My other concern relates to water usage by data centers. Just as with their energy usage, data centers also use a lot of water — many of them 1 to 5 million gallons a day. I think a water usage impact study should be completed in relation to water usage and water pollution for data centers. Where is the water that the data center will use for cooling coming from? How will that usage affect residents and farmers, both economically and in relation to water drying up? How are they filtering and cleaning the water they use? Are there checks and balances to ensure that what the projects promise in relation to their water usage and treatment are being realized? How do we ensure that residential water bills do not increase as a result of the water consumption of data centers? Unlike the power grid, water is highly local and municipal and this should be easier to provide evidence for than energy consumption.

Data centers are also supposed to be very loud. I do see that the zoning requirements address the noise concerns and I hope it is adequate.

My last major concern when it comes to data centers are the environmental impacts. What checks and balances does the city have to keep data centers compliant in their effects on our environment? How are we ensuring that they are not drying up our water sources? In addition to data centers running 24/7 to keep servers going, which may be powered by green energy, they also have back-up generators, most often which are run on diesel, which have to be tested and run weekly to ensure that there is no lapse in power at the data centers. What is the impact of the pollution on these diesel generators that are powering hundreds of megawatts?

The data center zoning code is far from ready for approval and does not adequately address the concerns of Kansas Citians. It does not address the known effects data centers have shown to have on communities both economically and environmentally. I think the city should impose a one-year moratorium on any new data center projects, zoned either as communication establishments or data centers, until the effects of data centers can be studied and a more thorough zoning code that protects residents can be drawn up.

///

Katie Currid
Documentary and food photographer
(816) 309-6661
Portfolio: katiecurridphoto.com
Newsletter: Midwestern Nice

11/04/2025

Hello all,

I do not want data centers in our city. These centers prey on struggling communities and make big promises that go unkept. They take our land, drain our resources like water and energy, then ask us to pay their bills in return. Our money must nor be allocated to their power stations and transmission lines. We must not allow rampant noise or increases in our electricity bills or the wide range pollution of our air, water, and land. Our health and the health of generations to come, is not up for sale. Do not allow additional data centers in our city.

Thank you,

Janae Newman

KCI Data Center

From	Kelsey Nemec <k.corporateimagemktg@gmail.com>
Date	Tue 11/4/2025 8:55 AM
To	Kelsey Nemec <k.corporateimagemktg@gmail.com>

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the kcmo.org organization. Use caution and examine the sender address before replying or clicking links.

Hi,

I'm a concerned citizen living in Kansas City and have been following the news about a two data centers in the works in Kansas City — one at KCI Logistics off of I-29 and Mexico Avenue near the airport and one at I-435 and 169 highway.

I am gravely concerned about the negative ramifications that these data could have on our local environment, water resources, energy bills and energy consumption. Data centers are known to deplete local water sources, affect water pressure for residents, pollute the air and water and make energy bills for local residents soar.

Data centers are being built at a rapid rate across the nation, with two just in the Northland in the last year — the Meta data center near Smithville and the Google data center near Worlds of Fun that should be operating soon. Our energy bills saw a significant increase this summer, and I fear that four new data centers in Kansas City will make this worse. Just this September, Ameren shut off power to 15,000 Missouri rate payers who could not pay their energy bills.

I am urging you to draw awareness to these proposed data centers and ask important questions about the impact they will have on our community. I am concerned about the economic strain of increased residential energy bills and the demand that's put on our local power grid and water resources. I am also increasingly concerned about the lack of regulation around these data centers, as the city does not vote on building projects and cannot stop these projects once they are zoned.

I would like Kansas City to update its zoning codes to create a new category for data centers and I would like the city to place a one-year moratorium on the construction of data centers until we can figure out the impact it has on our community and create better regulation around them. Data centers often promise to use renewable energy and to replenish water, but there are rarely checks on these promises and once they are built, I fear they operate with little oversight, causing Kansas City residents to foot the bill for their massive energy and water usage.

I would like to voice my opposition to these Kansas City data center construction projects without further regulation.

Warm regards,
Kelsey

Kelsey Nemec
Sales & Marketing Director
American Solutions For Business

636.373.3129 | k.corporateimagemktg@gmail.com
[Home | CorporateImage (dcpromosite.com)](http://dcpromosite.com)

Data Center Concerns

From alexia page <alexiapage104@gmail.com>

Date Thu 10/30/2025 8:52 PM

To Reinhardt, Jennifer <Jennifer.Reinhardt@kcmo.org>; Williams, Gerald <Gerald.Williams@kcmo.org>; Elliott, Kyle <Kyle.Elliott@kcmo.org>

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the kcmo.org organization. Use caution and examine the sender address before replying or clicking links.

Hi,

I'm a concerned citizen living in Kansas City and have been following the news about the two data centers in the works in Kansas City — one at KCI Logistics off of I-29 and Mexico Avenue near the airport and one at I-435 and 169 highway.

I am gravely concerned about the negative ramifications that these centers could have on our local environment, water resources, energy bills and energy consumption. Data centers are known to deplete local water sources, affect water pressure for residents, pollute the air and water and make energy bills for local residents soar.

Data centers are being built at a rapid rate across the nation, with two just in the Northland in the last year — the Meta data center near Smithville and the Google data center near Worlds of Fun that should be operating soon. Our energy bills saw a significant increase this summer, and I fear that four new data centers in Kansas City will make this worse. Just this September, [Ameren shut off power to 15,000 Missouri rate payers who could not pay their energy bills](#).

I am urging you to draw awareness to these proposed data centers and ask important questions about the impact they will have on our community. I am concerned about the economic strain of increased residential energy bills and the demand that's put on our local power grid and water resources. I am also increasingly concerned about the lack of regulation around these data centers, as the city does not vote on building projects and cannot stop these projects once they are zoned.

I would like Kansas City to update its zoning codes to create a new category for data centers and I would like the city to place a one-year moratorium on the construction of data centers until we can figure out the impact it has on our community and create better regulation around them. Data centers often promise to use renewable energy and to replenish water, but there are rarely checks on these promises and once they are built, I fear they operate with little oversight, causing Kansas City residents to foot the bill for their massive energy and water usage.

I would like to voice my opposition to these Kansas City data center construction projects without further regulation.

All the best,

Alexia Page