From: Christy Grimes
To: Public Testimony; cc 1
Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance NO. 250889 and 250890
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 11:41:59 AM

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Dear City Council,

Hi my name is Christy and while I don't reside in Kansas City, I do work and pay income taxes in KC. I'm here today to oppose the ordinance proposals for a new temporary jail that would be funded by taxpayers like myself.

Instead of investing $25M in a temporary jail to make the city more "aesthetically pleasing" while hosting an international sporting event, 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 at higher risk of committing a city offense in part because of their lack of stable housing. However, let's be very clear - homelessness isn't a crime. Further, I believe there's a strong argument that incarcerating individuals, even if only temporarily, that haven't been charged with committing any crimes is a violation of their civil rights by denying them due process.

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. For example, it would be more beneficial in the long term to redirect a significant portion (if not all) of these funds into expanding Zero KC.

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 homelessness, housing insecurity, incarceration and harm in KC. We can't afford to do more of the same. Vote NO on ordinances 250889 and 250890.

Sincerely,
J. Christy Grimes
Sent from my iPhone