November 11, 2025

Neighborhood Planning & Development Committee
Mayor Pro Tem Parks-Shaw, Chair 414 E 12th Street Kansas City, MO 64106

RE: Support for Ordinance 250965 with Requested Amendments

Dear Mayor Pro Tem and Committee Members,

The Waldo Tower Neighborhood Association appreciates the Neighborhood Planning & Development Committee's work on Ordinance 250965, which addresses temporary Short-Term Rental (STR) permits for major events. We agree that the ordinance's intent—retaining the **priority of neighborhood integrity and quality of life** for long-term residents—is essential.

To ensure effective implementation and enforcement, we formally request that the Committee incorporate the following two critical amendments:

1. Clarify Event Terminology

We request the term **"special event"** be replaced with a unique, distinct term, such as **"major event**." Ambiguous language will confuse the public and increase the burden on enforcement staff trying to distinguish between common city events and the scale of an event like the FIFA World Cup.

2. Require Council Oversight and Criteria

We urge the Committee to amend the ordinance to ensure that the designation of an event as eligible for temporary STR permitting is **determined by City Council and adopted by resolution using objective criteria**. The proposed language delegates this significant authority solely to the Director of Neighborhood Services without defining criteria or requiring public engagement. Following the standard legislative process ensures **transparency** and allows for necessary **public engagement and participation** in the evaluation of future events.

Expanding the STR program requires great care and consideration for unintended consequences. We believe these two amendments are necessary to protect the existing STR program's clarity and maintain a high quality of life for long-term Kansas City residents.

We encourage the Committee to adopt Ordinance 250965 with these clarifying amendments.

Sincerely,

Angie Lile, President
Waldo Tower Neighborhood Association