Hello!

My name is Dylan Pyles, and I'm a KC resident in the 2nd district. I am writing with deep urgency, asking you to oppose both ordinances on the agenda today that would accelerate an inhumane World Cup jail built by a company with a history of human rights violations.

We know that many Kansas Citians are living in daily crises that involve things like housing and employment insecurity, and I think it's telling that this city continues to throw pennies at these issues while large-scale investments are saved for jails and luxury apartment complexes that some say would "put Kansas City on the map."

Some on this council have made it quite clear that, in so many words, the World Cup jail is simply a measure to clean the streets while we're on the world's stage. Let me ask: does this align with the human rights agreement that the city signed with FIFA in order to become a host city in the first place? This agreement emphasizes that cities develop a human rights action plan that protects the most vulnerable citizens in each city from displacement and exploitation--how does a temporary jail built explicitly for the World Cup align with that human rights directive? Where is the Human Rights Advisory Council that the city claimed they would be establishing ahead of the World Cup? I wonder what that council would think of this plan.

We know who goes to jail for municipal ordinance violations in this city. We know who will fill the World Cup jail--and it won't be a good look for KC's supposed commitment to human rights.

This is the time to stand on the moral responsibility that you committed to as a representative of Kansas City. This jail will be used to sweep the homeless and most vulnerable populations out of TV shots, as if Kansas City is a studio set for rent to the highest bidder. This jail is not only a haphazard financial investment, but may be a direct violation of the commitment that the city made to FIFA in the first place. Say NO to both temporary jail ordinances.

Respectfully,

Dylan Pyles