

Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods

Neighborhoods working together!

Brad Finkeldei, Chairman Lawrence Land Development Code Update Steering Committee Lawrence City Hall 6 East 6th St. Lawrence KS 66044

May 17, 2024

Mr. Finkeldei:

On May 15, in the monthly meeting of the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods, members representing 9 neighborhoods present, and 13 unique Lawrence neighborhoods total, unanimously voted to request additional time and feedback opportunities in the Land Development Code process.

Therefore, we are requesting that once the final draft is released, an additional 90 days be allowed for public input prior to presentation to the Planning Commission.

Residents have so far been unable to gauge the impact of the proposed Land Development Code on our neighborhoods because of its complexity, because the difficulty of comparing the "before and after" versions, and because each draft is continuously in flux.

While there are benefits from the draft Code's interactive nature that permits ongoing comments inserted into the text, the downside is that it's unclear how such comments may or may not be incorporated into the draft.

Because the current draft was only released on May 9th, and the engagement sessions all occur within 9 days, this does not allow individual neighborhoods or homeowners time to process the changes and communicate with their association members and neighbors. Individual neighborhoods may want to request a separate public meeting for them to meet with the consultant team at Clarion, along with one or more of the Lawrence planning staff.

A 553 page legal document cannot possibly be fully consumed, questions developed, and feedback generated in such a short window. Comparatively, Plan 2040 had multiple engagement sessions over five years. This document directly impacts our property values and quality of life. Adequate opportunity for understanding and questions must be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

Holli Joyce LAN Chair 785-979-5097