

**League of Women Voters of Lawrence-Douglas County**

P.O. Box 1072, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

June 21, 2009

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2009

City County Planning Office  
Lawrence, Kansas

Mr. Brad Finkeldei, Chairman  
Members  
Lawrence-Douglas County Planning Commission  
City Hall  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

RE: ITEM NO. 11; TA-5-5-09-TEXT AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 20 DEVELOPMENT CODE (SDM)  
REVISION TO INTERIOR PARKING LOT STANDARDS

Dear Chairman Finkeldei and Planning Commissioners:

We ask that you deny the change to the interior parking lot standards to double the number of parking spaces that require separating landscaped areas. After considerable discussion we realized that increasing the number of parking spaces per landscaped interval from 5 to 11 would not substantially reduce the area devoted to parking or reduce the impact on neighboring property. On the contrary, it would increase substantially the amount of heat build-up because of the increased paved surface area and reduction in shade.

Also, we ask that you not eliminate the requirement for interior landscaping on parking areas of 150 feet or less by allowing it as an "Alternative Compliance procedure." We further need to point out that the wording here is not clear as to whether it refers to the **parking** lot or to the single platted ownership lot. A parking lot of 150 feet deep is larger than the average residential lot, and this new standard alone would tend to create much greater heat build-up in the city because of the increase in paved surfaces and reduced shade.

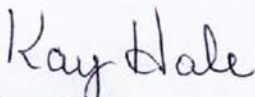
**"(b) Applicability**

The interior parking lot **Landscaping** standards of this section apply to all off-street parking lots containing **5 11** or more off-street **Parking Spaces**; provided, however, that for **Lots** that are less than one hundred fifty (150) feet deep, the interior **Landscaping** requirements may be waived in conformance with the Alternative Compliance procedure provided in Section 20-1007. ~~For Lots less than one hundred fifty (150) feet deep, with all Landscaping shall being~~ concentrated in the **Setback** from public rights of way or from residentially zoned property."

We repeat our support for encouraging more trees except in areas where screening is necessary.

We hope that you will seriously consider our comments. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Kale Hale  
Co-president



Alan Black, Chairman  
Land Use Committee

**League of Women Voters of Lawrence-Douglas County**

P.O. Box 1072, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

May 17, 2009

RECEIVED

MAY 18 2009

City County Planning Office  
Lawrence, Kansas

Mr. Brad Finkeldei, Chairman  
Members  
Lawrence-Douglas County Planning Commission  
City Hall  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

RE: ITEM NO. 8B: TEXT AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 20 DEVELOPMENT CODE (SDM), LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENT MODIFICATIONS.

Dear Chairman Finkeldei and Planning Commissioners:

Because of the possible unanticipated outcomes and impacts of the changes to the interior landscaping requirements recommended in this Text Amendment, we ask that you defer this item so that it can be studied by the public and neighborhood associations. This proposed change has been included in a very full agenda at a very busy time, and it is possible that those affected may not have had time to study it.

The current requirements were discussed by the Zoning and Codes (ZAC) Committee, and it was believed at the time that interior landscaping for parking was needed in order to provide shade and orientation to parking lots, including small parking lots. The proposal of substituting trees in place of shrubs would seem to be a positive suggestion. There are other changes, however, that we believe need more time to study.

We hope that you will allow more time to consider this proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Milton Scott  
Vice President



Alan Black, Chairman  
Land Use Committee