



**City of Topeka**  
**Governing Body Action Form**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**214 SE 8th Street**  
**Topeka, Kansas 66603**  
[www.topeka.org](http://www.topeka.org)  
July 14, 2026

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>DATE:</b>                 | <b>July 14, 2026</b>              |                    |
| <b>CONTACT PERSON:</b>       | <b>Councilmember Murray McGee</b> | <b>DOCUMENT #:</b> |
| <b>SECOND PARTY/SUBJECT:</b> | <b>Data Centers Moratorium</b>    | <b>PROJECT #:</b>  |
| <b>CIP PROJECT:</b>          | <b>No</b>                         |                    |
| <b>ACTION OF COUNCIL:</b>    |                                   | <b>JOURNAL #:</b>  |
|                              |                                   | <b>PAGE #:</b>     |

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**DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:**

**DISCUSSION with POSSIBLE ACTION of AN ORDINANCE introduced by Councilmembers Murray McGee, Christina Valdivia-Alcala and Michelle Bradberry implementing a temporary moratorium on the acceptance, processing, and approval of applications for data center developments within the City of Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas.**

**Voting Requirement:** Action requires at least six (6) votes of the Governing Body.

*(Approval would establish a 12-month temporary moratorium to allow the City adequate time to study, review, and determine how to address the public health and safety aspects associated with governing data center developments.)*

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS:**

Discussion with possible action. Action requires at least six (6) votes of the Governing Body.

**POLICY ISSUE:**

Whether or not to establish a temporary moratorium on data center developments.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

This is a policy decision to be made by the Governing Body. Staff is making no recommendation.

**BACKGROUND:**

At the July 7, 2026, Governing Body meeting opposition to data centers was expressed by residents and Governing Body members. Concerns centered around massive energy and water consumption, grid strain, noise pollution, utility rate increases and the lack of specific zoning codes. As a result of these discussions, Councilmembers McGee, Valdivia-Alcala and Bradberry requested an ordinance establishing a temporary moratorium on data centers be placed on the July 14, 2026, agenda for discussion with possible action by the Governing Body.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

There is no budgetary impact to the City to adopt the ordinance.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Not Applicable.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Ordinance - Temporary Moratorium on Data Centers](#)