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Date: March 10, 2025

To: Chairwoman Erickson and the Senate Committee on Government Efficiency

From: City of Overland Park

Re: HB 2304 – Opposition

Thank you for allowing the City of Overland Park to submit testimony in opposition to HB 2304. Although the City appreciates the intent to make economic development information more accessible to the public, this legislation as drafted would waste taxpayer resources by requiring municipalities to collect a variety of information that is not related to economic development.

HB 2304 requires local governments to provide information for economic development incentive programs that invest more than \$50,000 per year. If the definition of “economic development incentive programs” was actually limited to economic development programs like TIF and CID, this requirement would be manageable and provide information that might help educate the public. However, Section 1(b)(6)(J) adds to the definition “any grant, loan, lease, land acquisition, site preparation, utilities, facilities, streets or roadways, workforce development, workforce training or any other incentive offered by the local government and accepted by the recipient that may be quantified as to the value provided to the recipient.” Because of this expansive list, the City would have to report the following items that have nothing to do with economic development:

- Special alcohol fund and opioid settlement fund grants that are provided to local non-profits to prevent and treat substance abuse and opioid addiction.
- Annual CDBG grant funding provided to local non-profits for projects that benefit low and moderate income individuals in Overland Park.
- The City’s property tax rebate program, which offers a rebate of up to 75% of city property taxes residents in need of assistance.
- Lease agreements with telecommunications companies allowing colocation of small cell antennas on City light poles and other facilities
- Agreements with the Red Cross to utilize City facilities for mass care shelters in the event of public disasters or emergencies

This is just a small sample of activities that would have to be reported even though they have nothing to do with economic development. We think requiring local governments to report this type of information would dilute the information the proponents are wanting to make more accessible and is an unnecessary waste of taxpayer resources.

The City would also request that local governments be afforded more than 30 days after execution of an economic development incentive program agreement to provide the extensive amount of information required by HB 2304. A 30-day turnaround to produce the dozens of data points required by Section 2(c)(1) (including partners or principals that own or have controlling interests in complex corporate entities) will be very challenging for many local governments.

Therefore, we respectfully request that the Committee not advance this legislation to the full Senate unless: 1) Section 1(b)(6)(J) is stricken in its entirety or amended to only include legitimate economic development activities, and 2) local governments are provided more than 30 days to produce the extensive data required by this legislation.