

12 January 2022

Dear Metro Councilman Jecorey Arthur:

The Louisville Climate Action Network (LCAN) has 48 organizational members—26 other nonprofit organizations, 11 for-profit businesses, seven congregations and religious groups and four educational institutions—and 1,000+ individuals, all committed to cutting carbon pollution through voluntary efforts and better public policies.

**Thank you for introducing the newly revised Weed Ordinance (§156.052 D).**

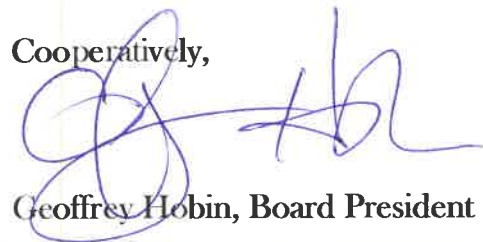
Reducing carbon pollution in our city is only one of many reasons why **LCAN supports it enthusiastically**. We have reviewed both its older and newly revised versions. Because it's better defined, we think the newer code would provide the clarity needed to encourage more citizens to replace lawn with natural landscaping, including native plants, realizing the following benefits:

- Reduced air pollution and noise from mowers and blowers
- Improved water quality, since they require much less fertilizer and pesticide
- Increased on-site stormwater retention
- Reduced water consumption for irrigation, since they are naturally suited to weather our wetter and drier periods well
- Protected beneficial wildlife—from birds to pollinating insects—needed to maintain healthy ecosystems and productive fruit trees and vegetable gardens

According to a scientific study published in *Environmental Management*, our nation's turf grass—which we cannot eat—covers an area three times larger than any irrigated food crop! Given all the resources, especially dirty fossil fuels, consumed to make fertilizer and pesticides and to run mowers and blowers, creating pollution that harms human health, replacing some of Louisville's lawns with natural landscaping warrants encouragement.

Passing this revised Weed Ordinance would be a significant step in that direction. Please let us know if we may be of assistance.

Cooperatively,



Geoffrey Hobin, Board President

**I can, you can,  
Louisville CAN!**

Louisville Climate Action Network  
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