

RESOLUTION NO. 680 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW, ON BEHALF OF THE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT, TO FILE ANY NECESSARY LEGAL ACTIONS RELATED TO KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY'S CLEAR-CUTTING AND REMOVAL OF TREES IN LEXINGTON-FAYETTE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, Kentucky Utilities Company has implemented a policy for clear-cutting trees under and around transmission lines in Lexington-Fayette County that has detrimentally impacted multiple Council Districts and neighborhoods throughout Lexington-Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, the Urban County Council understands that safety and reliability in providing electric service are important concerns but believes that the current policy in its application is unreasonable in that it simply utilizes the most damaging and least discretionary means possible for addressing the issue of tree growth in and around utility easements; and

WHEREAS, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and the public have an interest in this matter given the significant health and quality of life benefits that mature trees provide to the community and the damaging impact that wide scale tree cutting will cause; and

WHEREAS, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government has attempted to address these issues with Kentucky Utilities Company without success; and

WHEREAS, despite Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's best efforts, Kentucky Utilities Company has continued clear cutting trees in Lexington-Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council wishes to file a formal complaint with the Kentucky Public Service Commission and take any necessary legal action in Fayette Circuit Court to protect the interests of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and its residents from the negative environmental, ecological, aesthetic, and economic effects of Kentucky Utilities' tree cutting policy; and

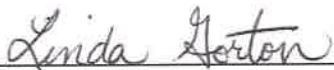
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

Section 1 - That the above recitals are incorporated herein by reference as if fully stated.

Section 2 – That the Department of Law, on behalf of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, be and hereby is authorized and directed to file any necessary legal actions related to Kentucky Utilities Company's clear-cutting and removal of trees in Lexington-Fayette County, including filing a formal complaint with the Kentucky Public Service Commission and an action in Fayette Circuit Court.

Section 3 – That this Resolution shall become effective on the date of its passage.

PASSED URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL: December 2, 2021



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK OF URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL
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