[date]

Dear Councilmember Day-Achauer,

The BREAD Organization has a long track record of winning solutions to serious community problems in the Columbus/Franklin County area. This letter serves as an endorsement for the BREAD Organization’s campaign to push for a strong private tree ordinance in our community for our most vulnerable neighbors experiencing flooding, mold, increasing utility bills, and health issues related to these factors.

In Pope Francis’ encyclical letter *Laudato Si’* of 2015 on caring for our common home, he wrote “All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents.”

We believe that this work will benefit many of the people in our community struggling from health conditions and suffering with these extremely high temperatures because of Columbus’ low tree canopy in marginalized neighborhoods.

We are asking you to start the working group now, and introduce strong private property tree protection legislation by December 1st of this year, to be able to reach the goal of 40% tree canopy by 2050.

Sincerely,