

# In Their Own Words

## What Supporters Are Saying

Nebius continues to engage with the community as our project advances and we're encouraged by the support we're receiving. We believe in the long-term benefits this investment can bring to Independence – a view shared by many community voices.



## On Investing in Independence



**Evan Glantz, Missouri Partnership** said, "This project represents a monumental opportunity for Independence, and Missouri as a whole, to become a national leader in the digital economy and a hub for technological innovation."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Mike Talboy, Greater Kansas City Building & Trades Council** said, "This is money to schools. It's money back into small businesses. It is coffee shops, it is restaurants, it is retail, it is everything that a city would need to be able to move forward."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Bret Kolman, Chairman, Independence Chamber of Commerce** said, "I'm grateful to Nebius for being willing to spend billions of dollars in our community. Our community is strong, it's a great place to live, we can make it even better. This is a great project and I hope you'll support it."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Jill McCarthy, Kansas City Area Development Council** said, "Data centers as a whole are critical infrastructure...and are the backbone of the economy providing resilience and security when it comes to defense, education, and financial services."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Doug Cowan, President & CEO, Community Services League** said, "I see a future where the financial gains transform our community...I believe that we can say yes to this project and envision a brighter future for all of us."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Valerie Byrnes, President of Independence Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership** said, "The fact that [Nebius] landed on Independence speaks volumes to you as a city. I commend you. I thank you for your leadership. Continue to use the tools in our toolbox to attract developments that can move the needle in Independence."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26



## On Education

**Dr. Cynthia Grant, Superintendent of the Independence School District** said, "The Independence School District is projected to receive nearly half a billion dollars. That level of projected revenue represents a significant and transformative financial benefit to our district."

"The project has the potential to lower levies for our patrons while keeping our schools strong."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

"The proposed Nebius AI data center has the potential to significantly enhance the district's overall local revenue base."

"The Board of Education expresses its support for the proposed Nebius AI data center project and recognizes its potential to significantly strengthen the district's long-term financial stability."

- ISD resolution in support of the project, passed on 2/18/26



## On Jobs and Economic Opportunity

**Dale Auger, President, Pipefitter Local Union 533** said, "On average, data centers, at peak of development, require 1500 to 3000 skilled construction workers. These are skilled union journeymen and women, majority of whom live here in Independence or grew up here, meaning that the majority of the money made here is going to be spent here."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Damon Miles, Union Financial Secretary Treasurer, LiUNA Local 264** said, "We have to make this happen. This is an opportunity... This is one of those things that can be a great thing in Independence. It can create jobs. It creates revenue."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Jason Godfrey, Mid America Carpenters Regional Council** said, "Projects of this scale create opportunities for skilled tradespeople, local businesses, and families who call Independence home."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26

**Bo Moreno, Business Manager, IBEW Local Union 124** said, "Local Union 124 represents over 4,700 active and retirees... We have a direct stake in this city's growth. We are here to support the Nebius data center because it represents more than just a building, it represents a \$7 billion investment and a future into our local workforce."

- City Council Testimony, 2/16/26