

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3rd EDITION

Instructor's Guide

Chapter 15

Class Discussion

1. What power does a planning and zoning commission have? Is it short term or long term?
2. Is there an area of town that the students think could be improved? What steps would be involved? Who has to approve of changes?
3. What is the difference between planning power and zoning power?
4. Have a discussion on what impact a new road or highway in town would have on development?
5. Should there be more apartments in town so young people can live on their own? What is needed to have an apartment complex?
6. Is it important that the wetlands in town be protected? Why?
7. Have students discuss their community and describe it in terms of rural, suburban, city, industrial, orientated to water, mixed

Class Assignments

1. Have students find out if there are sewers in town. If so, how does this affect development?
2. Does the community have town or community water or does everyone have wells? How does this affect development?
3. Have students take photos of some land development in town they like and some they do not like. Have them explain why they favor one or the other. Can anything be done with it?

Field Trips-Other Ideas

- Invite the Town Planner/Town Engineer to class to talk about current and future land use development.
- Visit the town planner's office and review the maps and the information in the office.
- Invite an official from a regional planning agency (see Appendix C) and have them talk about regional development and its impact on the students' town.
- Is there a hot topic on land development in the newspapers? Divide the class in half and have each side prepare arguments on either side of the argument. Allow class time for preparation.