

City Redevelopment Discussion



Situation:

The city wants to develop land that is currently being used as a city park. The park is currently a recreational area with a lake that is used for fishing and boating. The trees and open areas are used by all of the city's residents for outdoor activities and just escaping the hectic city. The development would be upscale shops and restaurants that the city hopes would attract wealthier residents to come live, work, and shop in the city. The general hope that the investment would indirectly help everyone by providing jobs and more business for local stores. The city is planning on holding a meeting to inform citizens of the plan and get their input.

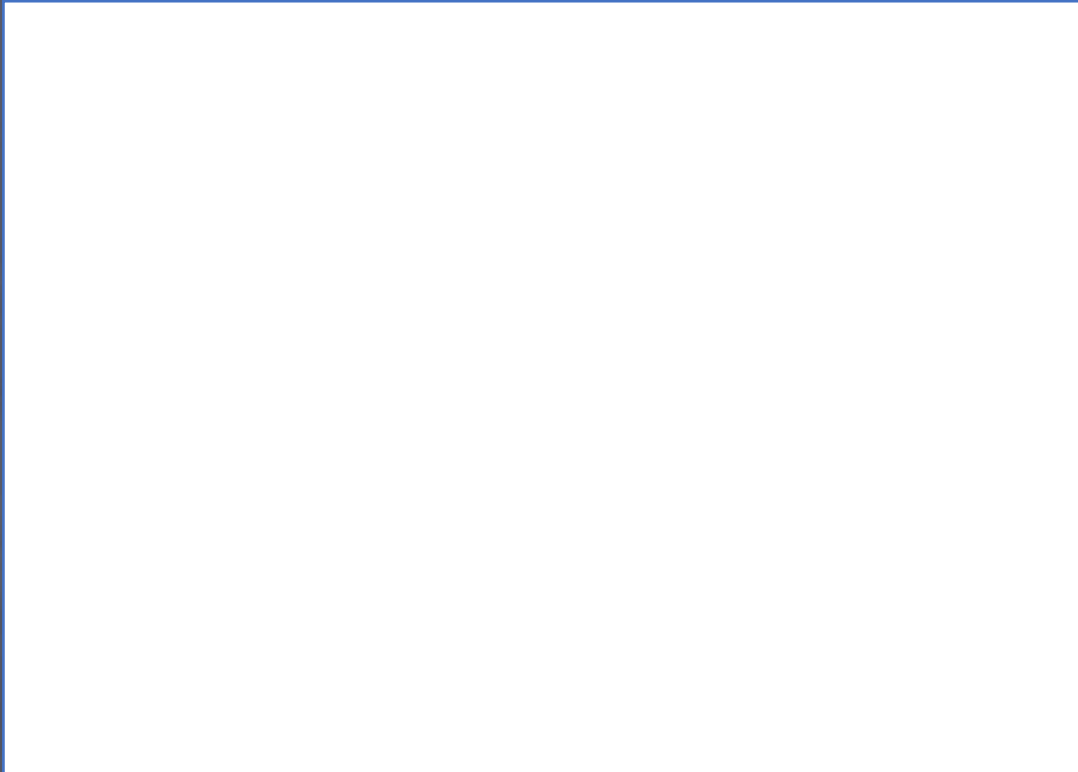
Take a stance as to whether the land should be developed, or kept as a park. Explain the reasoning for your stance.

Considering an Alternate Viewpoint

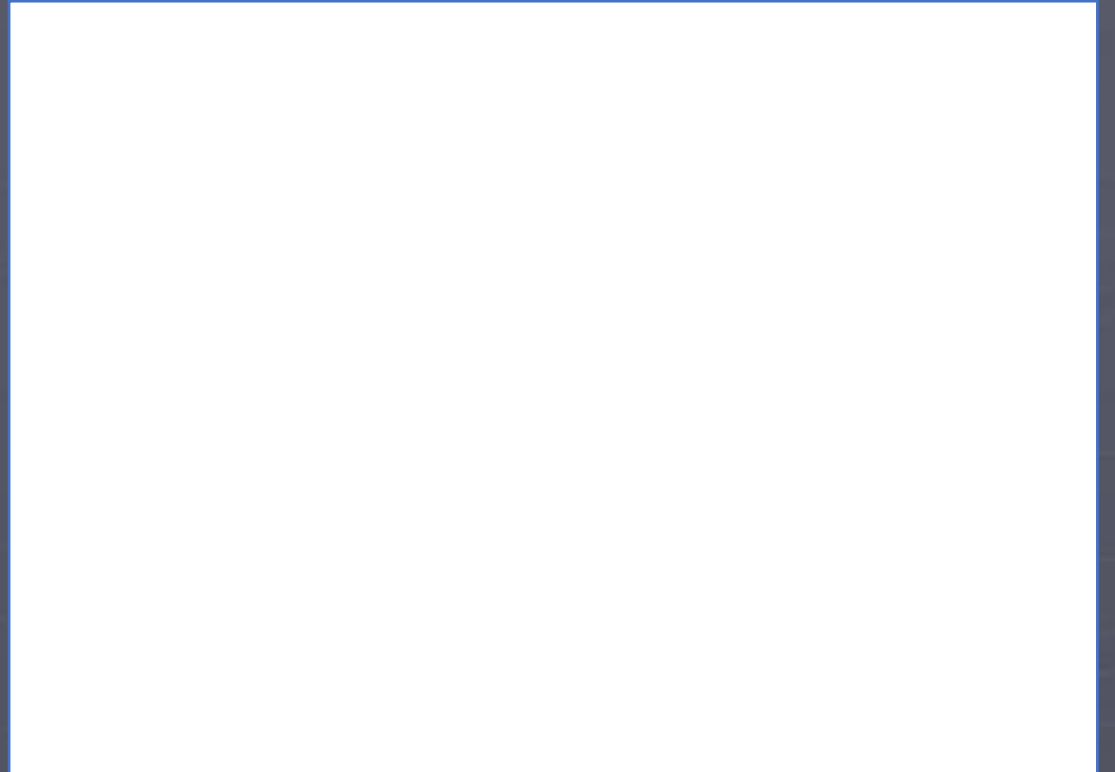
Now take the alternate to the one you have argued and come up with a paragraph letter to your city council representative in support of the opposite viewpoint.

Class Discussion

Positives of Development



Negatives of Development



Class vote

Course of Action

The City decides on moving ahead with a course of action, but you are unhappy with the decision, what steps would you take to try to get them to reconsider or to fight against the decision?

Come up with three possible courses of action with a partner, then choose one and come up with an action plan to implement it and why you believe it would work.

Discussion questions

- What strategies of civic action were discussed?
- What strategies of the governmental process were discussed?
(Methods which the government operates by)
- What levels of government were discussed?
- What were the benefits of considering alternate viewpoints?
- Are there any connections to relevant political discussions that are taking place right now?

Civil discourse is engagement in conversation intended to enhance understanding.