



Urban Geography

Governance & Politics

- Types of Political Issues
- Early
- Municipal Socialism
- The Machine
- Reform
- Fragmentation
- Governance In-Practice





Urban Geography

Issues

- **6 Types of Conflicts**
 - scope of government
 - sources of financial support
 - control over land use
 - service provision & performance
 - allocation of existing/scarce resources
 - civil rights



Urban Geography

Early

- Cities were limited service providers
 - sanitation and basic law & order
- Politics associated with landed local elite
- Limited powers and capacity to develop public infrastructures
- Based on principles of home rule





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Municipal Socialism

- Local government steps in to provide key service provision & infrastructures not provided by private sector to limit *'fire, disease, & the mob'*
 - simultaneously associated with physical (sanitation/sewer systems) & social (morality laws) infrastructure in cities
 - social welfare programs begin
 - scope and scale of government grows
 - *initial signs of private sector regulation*



Present Day Needle Exchange Programs



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Machine Politics

- A.K.A. Brokerage System
 - brokers access to services & goods
- Strength based on hierarchical spatial politics
 - single member districts with wards & precincts
- Benefited from spatially & ethnically distinct neighborhoods found in northern industrialized cities
- Undermines notion of ruling class
 - broadens political participation
 - empowers disenfranchised groups



Tammany Hall
NYC



Urban Geography

Famous Bosses



Tweed NYC



Pendergast KC



Curley Boston



Daley Chicago



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Reform

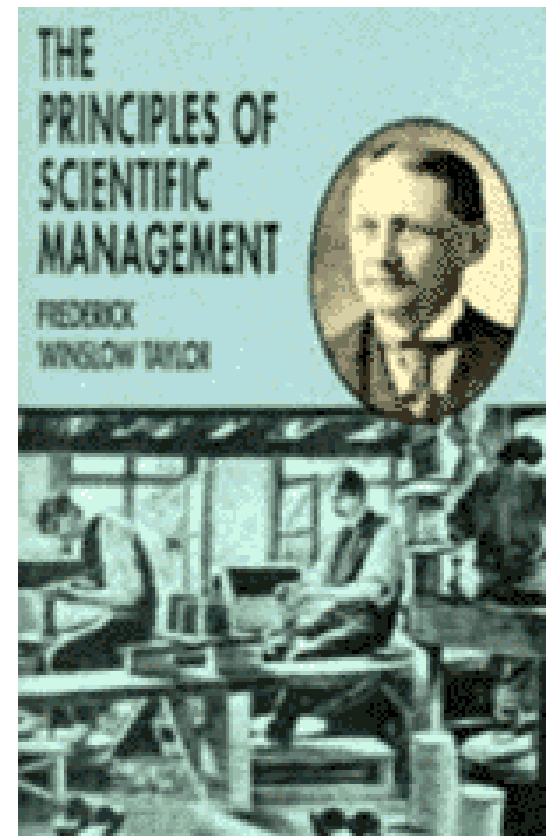
- An elite attempt to limit the political power of the working class & ethnic political machines
 - key for *boosterism*(the expansion of current urban space)
 - assures stable capital-labor relationships in industrial cities
- Core argument for change was based on ‘corruption’ of machine
 - eliminate hierarchical election spaces through at-large council seats
 - create new city government styles associated with professionalization of government
 - city mgr-council
 - weak-mayor
 - commission



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Reform

- Key Themes
 - Efficiency
 - Merit
 - Taylor's *Scientific Management*
 - Political v. Day-to-Day



1911



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Fragmentation

- Response to rapid annexation of efforts of urban boosterism to expand industrial space
 - urbanized spaces incorporate to prevent annexation
- Suburban development promotes fragmentation
 - new communities beyond urban limits incorporate to provide local services

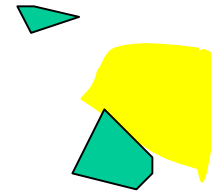


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Urbanization



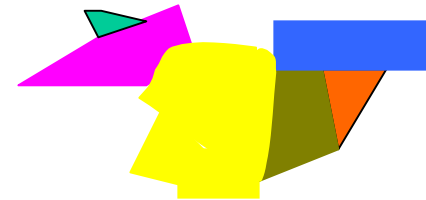
Central City Incorporation



Central City Annex's
Adjacent Urban Space &
Suburb Incorporates



Fragmented
Urban Political Space





Urban Geography

Fragmentation

- Implications
 - urban centers are not able to deal with metropolitan change
 - UFC
 - increasing services demands--decreasing income
 - intensified socio-economic segregation
 - exclusionary zoning
 - square footage requirements, etc...
 - tax structures & service packages
 - metropolitan planning impossible because of political fragmentation
 - competing growth coalitions
 - competing for economic development dollars “Zero Sum Game”
 - little or no benefits to embrace regionalism
 - home rule



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Governance In-Practice

- Fragmentation promotes many different models of governance & service provision
 - Tiebout's Thesis (1956)
 - Bundles of place-specific services
 - people vote with their 'feet'
 - evolution of many 'bundles'
 - cities experiment with service delivery
 - Lakewood Plan (1954)
 - flexible service delivery
 - privatization



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Governance In-Practice

- Networks of Association
 - Identify Local v. Areal Service Requirements
 - Create super-local districts
 - housing
 - transportation
 - water districts



A Private Utility