Readings in Urban Economics. Issues and Public Policy. Wiley Blackwell

Readings for Contemporary Economics

Description: Readings in Urban Economics: Issues and Public Policy gathers popular press articles, reviews of applied economics literature, and regression-based empirical studies to examine pressing public policy issues in urban areas. The readings extend beyond textbook economic theory and allow for a more in-depth and real-world analysis of a multitude of twenty-first-century urban concerns:

- Urban growth and urban sprawl.
- Housing.
- Economic development incentives.
- Crime.
- Race, employment, and poverty.
- Transportation.
- Public primary and secondary education.
- Local government.

Advanced undergraduates and graduates studying urban and/or regional economics, policy, studies, affairs, and planning – as well as urban academics, practitioners, policymakers, and planners – will appreciate the editorial framework of introduction, discussion questions, samples from selected further readings, and an appendix that conveniently lists pertinent journals in applied and policy-oriented urban economics and their websites.

Contents: Notes on Editor and Authors.

Acknowledgments.

Part I: Introduction:

1. Editorial Introduction: Robert W. Wassmer (Graduate Program in Public Policy and Administration, California State University, Sacramento).

2. US Cities Coming Back from Decades of Decline: John Machacek (Writer, Gannett News Service).

Part II: Urban Growth:


5. Urban Diversity and Economic Growth: John M. Quigley (Department of Economics and Goldman School of Public Policy; University of California, Berkeley).

6. Projecting Growth of Metropolitan Areas: Edwin S. Mills (Department of Finance, Northwestern University) and Luan Sende Lubuelle (Department of Economics, Northwestern University).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part III: Location, Land Use, and Urban Sprawl:


8. Al Gore Has A New Worry: George F. Will (Newsweek).
9. Urban Spatial Structure: Alex Anas (Department of Economics, University of Buffalo); Richard Arnott (Department of Economics, Boston College); and Kenneth A. Small (Department of Economics, University of California, Irvine).


11. Prove It: The Costs and Benefits of Sprawl: Peter Gordon (Department of Economics and School of Policy, Planning, and Development; University of Southern California); and Harry W. Richardson (Department of Economics and School of Policy, Planning, and Development, University of Southern California).


Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part IV: Local Economic Development Incentives:


17. Can Local Incentives Alter a Metropolitan City's Economic Development?: Robert W. Wassmer (Graduate Program in Public Policy and Administration, California State University, Sacramento).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part V: Race, Employment, and Poverty in Urban Areas:


20. No Easy Way Out: Study Finds Urban Poverty Digs Heels In: Jamie Woodwell (Writer, Nation's Cities Weekly) and Susan Rosenblum (Nation's Cities Weekly).

21. Inner Cities: Edwin S. Mills (Department of Finance, Northwestern University) and Luan Sende Lubuele (Department of Economics, Northwestern University).

22. Information on the Spatial Distribution of Job Opportunities within Metropolitan Areas: Keith R. Ihlanfeldt (Department of Economics, Georgia State University).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part VI: Urban Public Education:


24. Current Issues in Public Urban Education: Lawrence O. Picus (School of Education, University of Southern
25. Why is it So Hard to Help Central City Schools?: William Duncombe (Department of Public Administration, Syracuse University) and John Yinger (Department of Economics, Syracuse University).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part VII: Urban Public Housing:


27. Urban Housing Policy in the 1990s: Stuart A. Gabriel (Department of Finance, University of Southern California).

28. The Dynamics of Housing Assistance Spells: Thomas L. Hungerford (United States General Accounting Office and The American University).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part VIII: Urban Crime:


32. Estimating the Economic Model of Crime with Panel Data: Christopher Cornwell (Department of Economics, University of Georgia) and William Trumbull (Department of Economics, West Virginia University).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part IX: Urban Transportation:


34. You Ride, I'll Pay: Social Benefits and Transportation Subsidies: Janet Rothenburg Pack (Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania).


36. Infrastructure Services and the Productivity of Public Capital: The Case of Streets and Highways: Marlon G. Boarnet (Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of California, Irvine).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.

Part X: Local Government:

37. Why I Love the Suburbs: Debra Meyers (Citizen Editorialist, Buffalo News).
38. Metropolitan Fiscal Disparities: Roy Bahl (Department of Economics, Georgia State University).

39. Economic Influences on the Structure of Local Government in US Metropolitan Areas: Ronald C. Fisher (Department of Economics and Honors College, Michigan State University) and Robert W. Wassmer (Graduate Program in Public Policy and Administration, California State University, Sacramento).

Further Reading Samples.

Discussion Questions.


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