Urban Politics: A Reader

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Urban Politics: A Reader examines the evolving structure of political power in American cities. It reveals how changes in society relate to the global and national economy, immigration and internal migration, racial and ethnic transition, and how technological advances affect city politics. The text illuminates the paradox that while we are living in an era of increasing globalization, politics at the local level is more important than ever.

The collection of classic and contemporary readings by respected scholars, as well as politicians, journalists, and activists, enables readers to hear multiple voices explain how and why city politics works while assuring a thorough encounter with the rich variety of racial, ethnic, cultural, economic, and ideological perspectives that constitute the urban mosaic. Editor Stephen J. McGovern integrates material not commonly found in urban politics texts while considering a wide array of large and small cities throughout the United States. The reader includes an introductory essay at the beginning of each chapter that provides historical and conceptual context and a section following each chapter that invites students to reflect on how urban politics affects pressing policy issues facing city residents today. Taken together, Urban Politics: A Reader deepens our understanding of how cities are governed, nurtures thoughtful discussion and debate, and cultivates a concern for the vitality and well-being of urban places.

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KEY FEATURES:

- Classic and contemporary readings provide a rich account of power and politics in American cities organized around five themes:
  - the formation of city politics;
  - city politics under stress;
  - the politics of urban revitalization;
  - the changing dynamics of urban politics; and
  - visions of contemporary urban politics.

- Introductory essays provide historical, conceptual, and theoretical context for the readings, along with guidance for further reading for those who wish to pursue more specialized inquiry.

- Multiple voices presented within selected readings ensure a broad representation of viewpoints essential to critical learning.

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