
Special Districts, Special Purposes

Fringe Governments and
Urban Problems in the
Houston Area

By VIRGINIA MARION PERRENOD

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J.B. Carr, Richard C. Feiock



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Special Districts, Special Purposes Virginia Marion Perrenod,1984 The Political Economy of Special-Purpose Government Kathryn A. Foster,1997-03-01 In recent decades local governments across America have increasingly turned specialized functions over to autonomous agencies ranging in scope from subdivision sized water districts to multi state transit authorities This book is the first comprehensive examination of the causes and consequences of special purpose governments in more than 300 metropolitan areas in the United States It presents new evidence on the economic political and social implications of relying on these special districts while offering important findings about their use and significance

Special District Governments in the United States John Constantinus Bollens, *Handbook of Local Government Administration* Gargan,1996-10-11 This theoretically and experientially grounded reference provides a complete overview of the principles and applications of government administration and management practices in the local public sector Written by over 25 distinguished academics and professionals with substantial experience as practitioners and consultants of administrative operations to local governments the book covers the effects of environmental conditions on local administrators and management techniques to administration in different types of local government It helps readers reduce research time by presenting advanced materials on local government administration and management in a single source

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The American Experiment with Government Corporations Jerry Mitchell,2015-06-01 This assessment of government corporations examines their records and identifies advantages and failures The author challenges the reader to think creatively about the government corporate form and ways to reinvent it capitalizing on its strengths and compensating for its shortcomings

Public Authorities and Public Policy Jerry Mitchell,1992-06-30 Public authorities are an increasingly important form of government in the United States Every year various public policies are entrusted to public authorities for implementation in the manner of a private firm but for the public interest This edited collection

presents an in depth examination of the theory and practice of public authority administration and the current issues confronting public authorities in general Cases are provided to invite discussion about the uses of authorities in different policy areas The book begins with an introduction that reviews the premises that underlie the public authority concept and describes the policy activities and administrative organization of authorities The first section of the book focuses on the external and internal techniques used to hold authorities accountable The second section describes various financial issues relevant to authorities highlighting ways to improve the security of bonds and providing cases showing how corporate subsidiaries are used to finance projects The third section explores innovative uses of authorities in the areas of economic development low income housing creation social problem solving and hazardous waste disposal The final section considers the impact of public authorities using economic impact analysis to measure quantitative benefits of one specific authority and probing the problems in evaluating performance in one state The book concludes with a selected bibliography and a name and subject index The book is a useful resource for courses in public administration public policy management state and local government urban planning public finance and political science

American Government Karen O'Connor, Larry J. Sabato, Stefan Haag, Gary A. Keith, 2004-12 With complete updated coverage of the 2004 elections this Texas Edition of the election update of the number one book in American government continues to provide the most current and engaging introduction available for the course Written in the belief that we must first understand how American government and politics have developed in order to fully understand the issues facing our nation today O Connor and Sabato offer a historical perspective and bring the story of our system right up to the present with an abundance of current and student relevant examples

Special Districts Douglas R. Porter, 1992

Politics and Policy in States and Communities John J. Harrigan, David C. Nice, 2004 This up to date highly readable text focuses on twin perspectives the political economy of state and local politics and the impact of political reformism on states and communities This book studies reformism and its consequences as they relate to the legal cultural and financial framework of state and community politics as well as their effect on citizen influence community politics and the institutions of state government

The Problem of Special Districts in American Government United States. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1964

Texas Politics Richard H. Kraemer, Chardean Newell, 1990

City-County Consolidation and Its Alternatives: Reshaping the Local Government Landscape J.B. Carr, Richard C. Feiock, 2016-07-08 City country consolidation builds upon the Progressive tradition of favoring structural reform of local governments This volume looks at some important issues confronting contemporary efforts to consolidate governments and develops a theoretical approach to understanding both the motivations for pursuing consolidation and the way the rules guiding the process shape the outcome Individual chapters consider the push for city county consolidation and the current context in which such decisions are debated along with several alternatives to city county consolidation The transaction costs of city county consolidation are compared against the costs of

municipal annexation inter local agreements and the use of special district governments to achieve the desired consolidation of services The final chapters compare competing perspectives for and against consolidation and put together some of the pieces of an explanatory theory of local government consolidation *Debt Wish* Alberta Sbragia,1996-05-15 Albert Sbragia considers American urban government as an investor whether for building infrastructure or supporting economic development Over time such investment has become disconnected from the normal political and administrative processes of local policymaking through the use of special public spending authorities like water and sewer commissions and port turnpike and public power authorities Sbragia explores how this entrepreneurial activity developed and how federal and state policies facilitated or limited it She also analyzes the implications of cities creating innovative special purpose quasi governments to circumvent and dilute state control over city finances diluting their own authority in the process

Governing the Tap Megan Mullin,2009-08-21 An analysis of the political consequences of special district governance in drinking water management that offers new insights into the influence of political structures on local policymaking More than ever Americans rely on independent special districts to provide public services The special district which can be as small as a low budget mosquito abatement district or as vast as the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has become the most common form of local governance in the United States In Governing the Tap Megan Mullin examines the consequences of specialization and the fragmentation of policymaking authority through the lens of local drinking water policy Directly comparing specific conservation land use and contracting policies enacted by different forms of local government Mullin investigates the capacity of special districts to engage in responsive and collaborative decision making that promotes sustainable use of water resources She concludes that the effect of specialization is conditional on the structure of institutions and the severity of the policy problem with specialization offering the most benefit on policy problems that are least severe Mullin presents a political theory of specialized governance that is relevant to any of the variety of functions special districts perform Governing the Tap offers not only the first study of how the new decentralized politics of water is taking shape in American communities but also new and important findings about the influence of institutional structures on local policymaking

Cities, Politics, and Policy John P. Pelissero,2002-10-01 Just because Milwaukee isn't Manhattan doesn't mean that those urban centers face completely unique challenges Through effective comparative analysis of key issues in urban studies how city managers share power with mayors how spending policies affect economic development and how school politics impact education policy students can clearly see how scholars discern patterns and formulate conclusions to offer theoretical and practical insights from which all cities can benefit Pelissero brings together an impressive team of contributors to explore variation among cities through case studies and cross sectional analyses Each author synthesizes the field's seminal literature while explaining how urban leaders and their constituents grapple with everything from city council politics to conflict and cooperation among minority groups Authors identify both

key trends and gaps in the scholarship and help set the research agenda for the years to come Lively case material will hook your students while the accessible presentation of empirical evidence make this reader the comprehensive and sophisticated text you demand

Effluent America Martin V. Melosi, 2001-09-02 What is the difference between an anthill and a city? Protection from weather and predators, living and working quarters, transportation networks, food storage capability, all these they hold in common. And while there are obvious differences between humans and ants, both exist in the same space and time dimension in nature. This simple idea, imagining cities as part of the larger physical world, has driven the work of the historian Martin Melosi for twenty-five years. Melosi is one of a handful of scholars who examine urban history from an ecological perspective, using the city to help define the place of nature in human life. Cities, he maintains, are places where humans live, work, play, consume goods, and make waste, just as humans have in caves, on farms, and in villages. To imagine the city as outside of nature limits what can be known about our past and our future. *Effluent America* is a collection of essays spanning this innovative scholar's career and the growing field of urban environmental history. Garbage, wastewater, hazardous waste, these are the lenses through which Melosi views nineteenth and twentieth-century America. In broad overviews and specific case studies, *Effluent America* treats the relationship between industrial expansion and urban growth from an ecological perspective. He charts the development of city services, the rationale for their implementation, and how they affected growth. He explores the environmental impacts of unprecedented methods of production, the influence of new forms of energy, and changing patterns of consumption during the Industrial Revolution and beyond. In so doing, he traces how one of the richest nations in the world became also the most wasteful, a juxtaposition of affluence and effluence. Other essays consider the important role of American cities in the history of the conservation and environmental movements. Melosi sketches the reforms and reformers born out of such urban quality-of-life issues as pollution, sanitation, public health, and the need for greenspace. He also profiles the environmental justice movement, whose response to environmental problems is a question: Who bears the most risk? Urban environmental history is a window on the past, but it also directly informs issues of the present: public health, pollution, the role of government in delivering services, etc. *Effluent America* is an important volume for students of history and urban affairs, as well as for policymakers and all those concerned about the one world we inhabit.

The Urban Connection Luuk Boelens, 2009 The urban connection develops a promising actor-relational approach to urban planning. With respect to the usual governmental planning, it is focused outside in, instead of inside out. It derives its leitmotif from the actual debate about state-controlled versus neo-liberal planning and reflects on innovative post-structuralist scholars in the field of planning, economics, social geography, and governance. It then takes its own position in that debate, reflecting on actor-oriented experiments in planning practices. These experiments deal with the daily planning practice with a pro-active and operational attitude, contrary to the usual retrospective case studies. Therefore, it results in concrete suggestions on how to develop a more robust planning approach in an ongoing globalising and fragmenting world.

Progrowth Politics Robert D. Thomas, Richard W. Murray, 1991

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