Tuesday, October 2, 12

Introduction to Urban Planning

* scan readings to see a possible interest for the paper
* find the meeting time // plan ahead

Today's lecture is based off of Friedmann's Planning in the Public Domain

- Friedmann identifies planning as a process
  - knowledge $\rightarrow$ projection $\rightarrow$ action
  - knowledge: what we need to know // who lives there, transportation options, cultural/historic context, public services/amenities [e.g. sanitation, water], climate, civic involvement, public safety, political context, land use, etc.
  - projection: predicting [e.g. general plans], forecast of the future
  - action: taking actions today to get us to the desired future // planners propose action in the form of policies/plans/visions etc.

"Urban Planning"

- spatial/territorial: what goes where, geographical in nature // territorial scale examples: neighborhood, city, regional, state, multi-state regional, national, international

- "reason"/rationality: using reason [not involving politics] // value-free way to come up with the correct answer // appealing to emotions instead of reality // "rational" appears to our sense of logic // testable, anyone will find the same thing // validate-able by others // need only objective knowledge // there are limits to rationality—once person's "rational" may not be another's // we need to understand people's interpretation of urban life // Jane Jacobs: "rationalizing" in urban planning, discounting people, is faulty

- "public interest": public participation, people expressing interests // opportunity to educate the public about what's in their best interest // making known the costs and benefits // not necessarily "either/or" // planners have to educate the public to some degree

- reform-minded: improving, traditionally leftist-centered, action today for better tomorrows