Urban Renewal Programs

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Goals

- Rejuvenate urban blight
- Promote economic growth
- A beautiful city
- Revitalize urban core

Method 1: TIF

- TIF: Tax Increment Financing
- Locate blighted area that needs help
- Or locate area that needs economic growth
- TIF district taxed at blighted rate for 20 years
- Property improvements not taxed for 20 years
- Property tax subsidy to spur investment, construction, economic growth

TIFs in Sioux Falls

- Identify project, not area
- Subsidize project, not neighborhood
- No limit on project size, owner income
- Great for wealthy contractors
- Reward for political campaign contributors?

Method 2: Reduced Tax Program

- Saves property tax for 5 years, not 20
- Downtown and core neighborhoods
- Applies for structures valued \$300,000 or more
- Does not apply to the smallest
- Like a miniature TIF
- https://www.siouxfalls.org/planningdev/planning/development-programs/taxreduction

Method 3: Housing Program

- For low income owner-occupied
- Excludes mobile homes, they should be included
- Interest free loan while living there sweet!
- For rentals, 3% interest 5-year loan
- https://www.siouxfalls.org/planningdev/planning/affordable-housing
- Source: Dustin Powers, Urban Planner

Inequality Issues

- Mobile homes not covered, for the poorest homeowners
- TIFs help the richest, has great terms

Fun at Great Bear

