

Teacher Guide to Student Worksheet 3-Comparing Today to Yesterday

Name: _____

Park Support Slide 1:

What does appropriation mean?

It means the setting aside of money for a particular use.

In your own words, what is this slide saying?

The black and white lobbying slide is asking citizens to support their Park Commission if they like the city parks. It asks them to contact a council member and ask them to set aside a good amount of money for the Harrisburg park system in 1909.

What are some ways you could “urge your Councilmen” to support the park system?

Write a persuasive letter. Suggest that this issue would affect your vote.

Who are your Council members?

Answer will vary depending upon location of school.

Park Support 2:

Five cents in 1909 is about the equivalent of \$1.13 today (2006). [*Statistic calculated from the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis-Consumer Price Index.

Would you spend \$.40 a month to make improvements to your city parks today? Why or why not? Reasonable responses are acceptable:

Yes./40 cents per month is not much money, and I enjoying spending time in our parks. No./Our parks do not need any improvement. They are already great. Etc.

Harrisburg-Albany Comparison

How much does it cost people a year for the city to maintain Harrisburg’s parks and playgrounds?

36 cents

Is this more or less than people in Albany pay to maintain their parks? *Less.*

Who has more park space—Harrisburg or Albany? *Harrisburg-589 acres.*

If people from Harrisburg wanted to “be even with” Albany on the amount of money they spend PER ACRE, what would ‘Harrisburgers’ have to spend per year? (Extra credit)

\$1.20. It is $315/589 = .64/x$

Is the comparison effective? Explain your answer.

Yes. It tugs at one’s civic pride.

What is the main message of this slide?

“More Money, More Service.” Ask your council member to support the increase of appropriations for the park system.

Cameron Parkway Slide

What does the Cameron Parkway offer?

It offers fine shade, good grass, running water, and more than a mile of park along Spring Creek.

Where is Spring Creek? (Use map.)

Why does the slide say “Good for rich and poor alike.”?

It appeals to a sense of social unity.

What does the message direct you to do?

Use the parkway.

Park Support Slide 3

According to census information from 1900, Harrisburg only had 50,167 living in it in 1900 and was the 77th largest city. So were 446,000 a lot of people to use the River Front Park?

Yes. This is an impressive statistic.

Why is it important to tell your council member that you are using and enjoying the park?

It is important tell your council member you are enjoying the park, so that when he/she is faced with decisions about how to allocate and spend city money, he/she will know just how much the community values this park resource.

In general, most of these slides encourage you to be in communication with or contact your city council member. What does the city council do?

*Seven citizens from the community are elected to be on council. They look at legislative concerns on all kinds of topics: Administration, Budget and Finance, Building and Housing, Community and Economic Development, Children and Youth, **Parks and Recreation**, and Public Safety and Public Works.*