

Fairness, Equity, and a Level Playing Field: Development Goals for the Resilient City

Christopher K. Odinet
Assistant Professor of Law
Southern University Law Center

Resilient Cities—Idaho Law Review Symposium

CITIES AND SOCIETY



THE RISE OF LOCALISM

- *Americans' Belief That Gov't Is Too Powerful at Record Level*

- GALLUP POLITICS

- *Bypass Washington, Save*

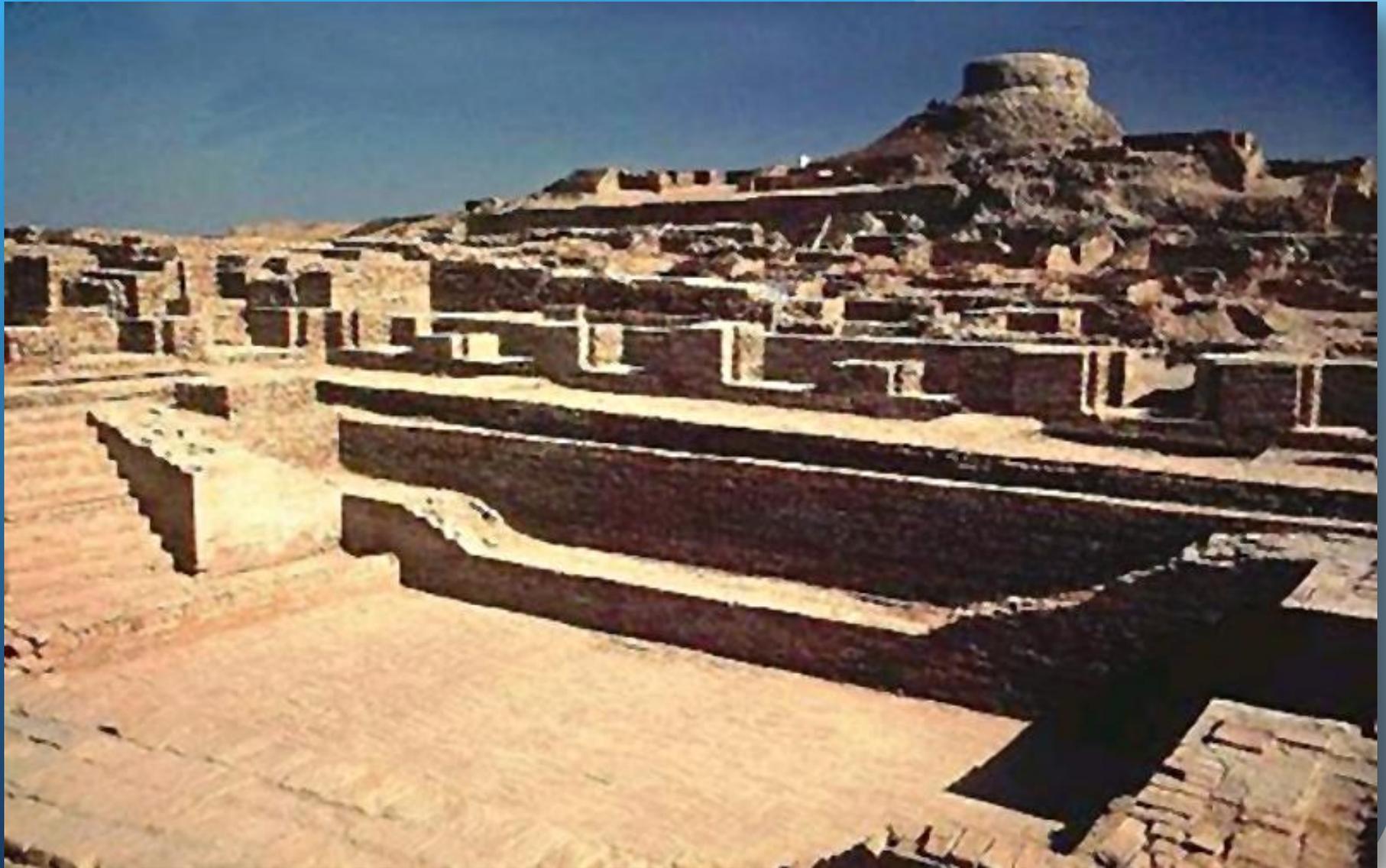
America

- CNN NEWS

- *43% Say Local Government Better Than Feds, States*

- RASMUSSEN REPORTS

THE FIRST CITIES



RISE OF CITY-STATES



CITIES OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE



MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE CITIES



EARLY AMERICAN CITIES



PROGRESSION OF CITY SERVICES

- Municipal Water (1822)
- Sewage Works (1823)
- Street Railways (1832)
- Public Education (1840)
- Local Police (1844)
- Public Parks (1840s)
- Public Libraries (1854)
- Public Bridges (1863)
- Public Health Boards (1866)
- Outdoor Lighting (1880s)

MODERN AMERICAN CITIES



LOCAL GOV'T COMPETITION

- *As Companies Seek Tax Deals, Governments Pay High Price, N.Y. TIMES*

- *Lines Blur as Texas Gives Industries a Bonanza*

- N.Y. Times

- *Michigan Town Woos Hollywood, but Ends Up With a Bit Part, N.Y. TIMES*

ALL HAIL THE RANKINGS

- Most Logistics-Friendly Cities (*Logistics Today*)
- Hot Cities (*Entrepreneur*)
- Business Climate Rankings (*Site Selection*)
- Best Performing Cities (*Milken*)
- Best Cities for Business (*Forbes*)
- Top Cities for Doing Business (*Inc.com*)
- Creative Cities (*Florida*)
- Assets and Opportunity Scorecard (*CFED*)
- Integrity Index (*BGA*)
- Best States for Business (*Forbes*)
- Best Places to Live (*Money*)
- 50 Hottest Cities (*Expansion Management*)

THE RESILIENT CITY



Municipal Economic Development Tools

- Tax exempt bonding authority
- Special Taxing Districts
- Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Programs
- Property or Sales Tax Abatement Initiatives
- Direct Monetary Grants
- Infrastructure Construction
- Tax Increment Financing Districts

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS



- Winners and Losers
- Political Cronyism
- Little Meaningful Oversight
- Head First Decision-Making
- Gov't Uplifts One Party to Exclusion of Others
- Disproportionate Risk Sharing

THE RESILIENT CITY



FAIRNESS AND EQUITY: THE CITY'S ROLE IN KEEPING THE PLAYING FIELD LEVEL



- *Thank You* -