Assignment #1 Descriptive Planning Analysis

Using basic secondary data that can be found at the locations below, prepare a two-page text, tabular, and graphical statistical profile of the City of Fort Dodge, Iowa (located northeast of Ames in Webster County).

Assume that your information may eventually be used by the city of Fort Dodge as a promotional handout, so make sure it is attractive and useful to the readers.

There are two web sites for you to look at. The first is the State Data Center. It is here: [http://www.iowadatacenter.org/](http://www.iowadatacenter.org/) Click on the Data tab, and then on City / Incorporated Places. Choose among the topics for data that you might include in your summary.

The second data set is the American Fact Finder data set at the U.S. Census. It is here: [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en)

Type in Fort Dodge in the city prompt and enter Iowa in the state window. Press Go.

*(You will build a spreadsheet of data to organize and analyze for your assignment, but you will not hand in your spreadsheet.)*

You might choose among several sets of data to assess and include: Population, population change, the composition of the population, income, occupation, educational attainment, or the city economic profile. You can choose others too; it is up to you. It is OK to use data from the 2000 census to describe the community, but if there are newer data, you should try to use them.

Make sure that you compare Fort Dodge to its larger neighbors like Webster City Humboldt, or Storm Lake so that I know why Fort Dodge is similar or different than the others.

Also, make sure that you reference the statistics that you choose or that you have processed in your write-up. Make sure that you use descriptive and appropriate titles on your tables and graphs or labels. Don’t just put numbers on a page and think that I’ll understand what they mean.

It is your job to include what you think will be the best data for describing the attributes of the community.

Please hand in a printed copy.

Make sure that it has your name on it.

Assignment type: Individual
Assignment due date: **October 1, 2009. In class.** Late assignments will be docked 10 percentage points per late class period up to a maximum of 50 percent off.