

# Final Product Proposal and Calendar

## **Introduction and Statement of Purpose**

My final product is going to be extensive research culminating in a short video documentary (I'm envisioning about 8-12 minutes depending on how many people I'm able to speak to) on the topic of local control in Texas legislation, especially relating to Frisco in some aspects. After the research I completed for Original Work, I am hoping to make the idea of local control more accessible to people so that the electorate understands current issues in the city and state, in particular examining how it connects to Frisco alone when applicable. My goal is to not only understand more about these cases in local government but to gain a clearer view of the work done in public policy and how different sides view this subject differently. By being able to speak to people on different ends of the political spectrum, I would like to gain a clearer view of how partisan politics can play a role in situations of local and state control and how, beyond that, politicians leaning the same way can still disagree on local/state jurisdiction. I think this project could be beneficial to anyone looking to understand local and state policy in a more straightforward way.

## **Review of Skills and Research**

There are multiple research topics that I've learned about this year in ISM that will be crucial to the completion of my Final Product. First of all, the background knowledge that I've acquired from the research I did for Original Work will help me to understand local control as it relates to property tax code and other local control subjects. The different sides I read on local control situations will help me gain some distance from the subject matter to try to approach what I learn with as little bias as possible. Next, I will need to have a thorough comprehension of everything I want to speak to the people I'm going to interview on. Whether that be property taxes in particular or other branches of local control such as the discrimination and the bathroom bill or a plastic bag ban. This will take online research as well as speaking to people within the city government to see how public policy and local control legislation influences the work that a city can complete. I will also need to stay up to date on what legislation is coming through the state right now so I can ensure the information I'm working off of is as accurate as possible. As mentioned above, I would like to hear from as many political sides

as possible during this stage to give my project a roundedness. I would like to know not only the concerns of Frisco City Council, but the viewpoints of many people affected by the outcomes of local control.

With this project, I will have to develop and utilize multiple skills relating to research and my understanding of local government. I will have to get better at reading on legislation as well as being able to comprehend multiple sides of a problem. I will have to utilize multiple sources to fully recognize how business is affected in Frisco as well as being able to discern biases through hearing from different sources about one particular subject. Having the opportunity to see firsthand how business is manipulated through factors like property taxes and bathroom bills will require me to research the conditions governments provide that allow them to prosper more. This project will really necessitate an understanding of municipal jurisdiction that goes beyond the basics of what I get about it right now, honing those skills in particular.

## **Methodology**

- Research business practices in Frisco, TX and how they relate to local control cases
- Figure out based on the history of business what allows the economy to prosper here (how property taxes, schools, etc. effect prosperity in Frisco)
- Learn more about current local control legislation
- Reach out to people within the local government to see how they feel about local control, seeing if they would be willing to be interviewed for the project
  - Try to find people from different “sides” politically
  - Put together comprehensive ideas of each miniature interview, so that the final video flows in its concept
- Identify what local control could do or prevent the city from doing
- Watch other videos along the lines of what I’m trying to create to get ideas and an understanding of how the video should flow
- Understand my research in the context of my project
  - Try to make it simplistic enough it can be understood by people with not much background on public policy

- Interview and film different people within and outside of Frisco from different sides of the local control debate
  - Have questions prepared for each that keep the ideas broad, but relevant to each person and their potential expertise on the subject

### **Materials**

- My laptop for writing and editing (iMovie should work for editing)
- I could use my phone or ideally a camera to film
- Research based on other primary sources (pen and paper, recorder for notes)
- Sample portfolios to keep all the information

Estimated cost: \$0

### **Utilization of Higher Thinking Skills**

Through this process, I will need to synthesize the information I gain through sources and research in my final analysis project. I will need to be able to analyze the different scenarios and factors that relate to business and municipal success to truly comprehend the conditions that allow cities like Frisco to prosper. I also think that evaluation will be an important skill for me as evaluating what people have to say in regards to local control can easily influence the work I do, so evaluating what I learn with the research I've done will keep my project as nuanced and thorough as possible. It's important to me with this Final Product that I see local government from as many sides as I can and I think that evaluating the validity of what I hear will be crucial to the strength of my work as a whole. I will need to consider every perspective I hear from and what their individual motivations may be, while ultimately maintaining my goal of being able to educate on the subject of local control.

### **Conclusions**

The conclusion of my product will hopefully be a much better understanding of local control from multiple sides of the debate and synthesize it into a project that can be understood by many. So far this year I've really taken away from my mentorship how important the market is for Frisco and its rapid growth, so hopefully being able to ask pointed questions to professionals on the subject will let

me examine how local control could impact growth even more. I think this proposed project will do a good job of blending what I know to be true about Frisco's success with what I still want to learn about better. Hopefully by focusing on a less-stressed aspect of local government that has a great bearing on the residents of every city in the state, I will not only get a lot out of it, but be able to pass on a simplified understanding of it to others, too. I think this project will represent how society can be directly involved in their government when they take some time to comprehend it better. By picking a more intricate subject maybe I'll demonstrate that it's not too complex to figure out and that seeing multiple sides of an issue has a lot of value to the community at large.

### **Weekly Calendar**

- **Week 1:** Put final preparations on the Proposal and work with mentors to finalize the project vision
- **Week 2:** Begin research local control, honing in on a few subjects I think are most relevant to flesh out for future interviews and the video
- **Week 3:** Continue my research on local control, focusing on current legislation and how it impacts Frisco, so I can make my understanding of local control as specific to the people I'll be speaking to as possible
- **Week 4:** Plan out the interviews coming up in the next few weeks and make sure I have pointed questions for each person
- **Week 5:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (potentially someone on city council)
- **Week 6:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (potentially someone on the "other side" of local control in state government)
- **Week 7:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (potentially someone in local government outside of Frisco for another viewpoint)
- **Week 8:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (anyone else I have the opportunity-- school board, other representatives of departments, etc.)
- **Week 9:** Begin formatting the video and editing together the clips that I have. Make any research sections and design those in this week

- **Week 10:** Put together all the interviews and research sections into one video and continue the editing process
- **Week 11:** Finish editing and putting together my informational video, sending it to my mentors to request any editing or changes that should be made
- **Week 12:** Make any revisions necessary as a result of speaking with my mentors and getting their feedback
- **Week 13:** Plan my Final Presentation Night speech, making any changes needed to my Product to fit with the presentation
- **Week 14:** Leave this week for final touches and polishing of the entire project