

Educator Primer

Video 1: Your City Needs You!

Welcome to Phase 3 of the Vancouver Plan's Young Planners Program!

We are so excited to welcome you and your class, group or organization to the project! We've had tremendous uptake from youth organizations during the first two phases of the process and we are excited to expand the program into classrooms and to more organizations! Each video in Module 1 introduces a city or planning-related topic and has an optional activity that invites students to take a deeper dive into the topic area.



Video 1 features a Welcome to our children and youth from Mayor Kennedy Stewart and an invitation for everyone to participate in the program.

The Optional Activity focuses on different ways that people can get involved in their communities. The Young Planners Program has been designed to give them a chance to participate in a public engagement process, but there are lots of other ways to participate in a city, whether as an elected official, city staff or even as a volunteer.

The discussion can be done as a class, as small groups or it can even be an individual activity. It can be an opportunity for students to explore their presentation and public speaking skills, or it could be a short written assignment. As a group activity, the discussion could allow students to learn more about the interests of their peers and what ideas some have for future careers or hobbies. A goal of this activity is to introduce students to how many different opportunities a city can provide and the amount of activities and people that contribute to it being a great place. While it would be great if this program inspires them to get involved in more civic issues, this activity will hopefully show that there is a space for them in civic life no matter what their interests are!



Suggested Discussion Questions:

- How are you involved in your community today?
- How might you want to be active in your community in the future?
- What skills do you have, or want to develop, that might be needed by the city?
- What issues are you most interested in?

Feel free to add or modify these questions to fit with your class and context.