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11.337J / 4.247J Urban Design Policy and Action
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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Urban Studies and Planning
11.337J Urban Design Policy and Action

Exercise #2: “Thinking About Regulation”

Objectives: This exercise asks you to focus on the tool of regulation. You are asked to provide several examples of the use of regulation by government to achieve an urban design policy.

Assignment: Identify several examples of government use of regulation as a tool to implement an urban design policy or plan. *Be sure to select examples of both hard and soft regulation and distinguish between them.* Describe these examples as precisely as you can, making clear the government's role in implementation. Appraise the appropriateness of regulation to achieve the policy it is intended to achieve. You should think about the match between the policy/plan and the actual or likely outcomes and assess the contribution that regulation as the tool of choice has made to achieving (or failing to achieve) the desired outcomes.

Be very brief in your description; our emphasis is to build as wide a dossier of good examples rather than to dig deeply. Two or three pages ought to be sufficient.