

Fill in the blank with the term being defined.

- _____ 1. The form of city government in which the members of the governing board also are administrators
- _____ 2. Term to indicate that a city has adopted a special charter that gives it more say about local affairs
- _____ 3. The only city official elected by the people in addition to the mayor and governing boards
- _____ 4. The act of creating a city
- _____ 5. A local law passed by a city governing board that applies within the city limits
- _____ 6. The form of city government that emphasizes professionalism
- _____ 7. Percentage of North Dakota cities using the mayor-council form of government
- _____ 8. The method of electing a governing board intended to obtain members from all sections of town
- _____ 9. Only city in North Dakota that uses the council-manager form of government
- _____ 10. Number of organized cities in North Dakota
- _____ 11. Number of North Dakota cities that have a commission form of government
- _____ 12. Most important source of revenue for North Dakota cities
- _____ 13. The official who maintains all city records

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT**MATCHING****9**

Find the statement in Column B that best fits each statement or phrase in Column A. In the blank provided, write the letter of your answer for each question.

COLUMN A

- _____ 1. Subdivision of a city for electing alderpersons
- _____ 2. Document granting powers
- _____ 3. Chief city executive
- _____ 4. An organization considered to be a legal person
- _____ 5. Gives cities more local control over local affairs
- _____ 6. Term used for a city “law”
- _____ 7. Group of departments assigned to a city commissioner
- _____ 8. Another term for city
- _____ 9. Legislative body in mayor-council and council-manager cities
- _____ 10. Serves on city commission
- _____ 11. To be elected by all voters of a city
- _____ 12. Legal procedure for becoming a city
- _____ 13. Power of people to propose their own laws
- _____ 14. Name of governing board under the commission form of city government

COLUMN B

- A. At-Large
- B. Charter
- C. Commission
- D. Commissioner
- E. Corporation
- F. Council
- G. Home Rule
- H. Incorporation
- I. Initiative
- J. Manager
- K. Mayor
- L. Mill
- M. Municipality
- N. Ordinance
- O. Portfolio
- P. Ward

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FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

At present, North Dakota cities use three different forms of city government. Give two statements about each form that makes it different from the other two.

1. Mayor-Council

a. _____

b. _____

2. Commission

a. _____

b. _____

3. Council-Manager

a. _____

b. _____

Voters in cities choose the members of their governing boards (councils and commissions) “at large” or “by wards.” Give two advantages and two disadvantages of the two methods.

	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
4. At-large	a. b.	a. b.
5. By ward	a. b.	a. b.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

ANALYSIS: AGREE - DISAGREE

Below are a series of statements with which you should agree or disagree. Defend your reasoning.

	AGREE	DISAGREE
1. Some cities are too small to have “home rule” powers. REASON:		
2. Most of North Dakota’s cities are too small to be governments. REASON:		
3. The council-manager form of government gives the people better government. REASON:		
4. The commission form of government suffers because it does not have a real mayor. REASON:		
5. Elections by ward make people feel as though they have more influence in city government. REASON:		
6. People aren’t interested in city government so it doesn’t make any difference what form of government a city has. REASON:		
6. Every city government ought to have a strong mayor who can make things happen. REASON:		

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CONSULTING

You are a member of a consulting team asked to recommend the best form of government for each of the following cities and the best method for electing the governing board. What is your recommendation in each case? Give your reasons.

1. Eastwood is a city of 1,100 people of Scandinavian heritage. It is a peaceful town with few problems. However, the people would like to see more activity in creating jobs and attracting tourists to its very unique collection of frontier farm equipment.

Form of government: _____

Reason:

Method of electing governing board: _____

Reason:

2. Dakota City has a population of 27,000 people of mixed ethnic and demographic backgrounds. Some feel “left out” of city affairs and would like to be included. A part of this feeling is caused by the existence of different groups living in different neighborhoods.

Form of government: _____

Reason:

Method of electing governing board: _____

Reason:

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

EVALUATION

Below are four sets with two statements listed in each set. Place an “X” in front of the statement that you feel is the best for a North Dakota city. Below the two statements in each set is a space to explain your reasoning for selecting one statement over the other.

Set 1

_____ A mayor should have the power to hire and fire city department heads and “veto” ordinances.

_____ A mayor should have no more power other than to serve as chair of the council.

Reason for selection:

Set 2

_____ A municipal judge should be appointed by the mayor.

_____ A municipal judge should be elected by the people.

Reason for selection:

Set 3

_____ City councils should consist of 3 or 5 members.

_____ City councils should consist of 9 to 15 members.

Reason for selection:

Set 4

_____ North Dakota cities should be allowed to run and operate liquor stores.

_____ North Dakota cities should not run and operate liquor stores.

Reason for selection:

Use this proposed agenda to interview the mayor or member of a governing board about city government.

1. What first interested you in your position in city government?
2. How did you go about getting involved in city affairs?
3. What kind of a campaign, if any, did you conduct for the office?
4. Who helped you in doing the spadework of your campaign?
5. Did your campaign cost any money? If so, where did it come from?
6. Do either of the political parties get involved in city elections?
7. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of parties being involved in city elections?
8. How are ideas and suggestions generated for city activities?
9. What groups outside of the elected officials are regularly involved in city affairs?
10. Many city activities are involved in state and federal issues.
 - a. What does the state do for the city and what does the city do for the state?
 - b. What does the federal government do for the city and what does the city do for it?
11. Where does the city get its money? What percentage comes from each source?
12. What are the steps in adopting an ordinance?
13. Sometimes it is more important to keep people happy than to do what is most efficient. Can you think of any examples from this or neighboring cities? How do you balance the two?
14. In what ways do people expect too much from city government?
15. What do you like best—and least—about your position?