

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATORY PLANNING THROUGH PHOTO ELICITATION
IN CENTRALIA, ILLINOIS**

An Abstract of
An Applied Thesis Project
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Abstract

A common problem with planning documents is that they do not represent the interest of stakeholders in the community. When stakeholders are not involved in the planning process, the goals and tasks stated in planning documents are often not supported and implemented by the community.

This applied thesis explains the use of photo elicitation as a tool to facilitate participatory, stakeholder planning in Centralia, Illinois, as a method to assess and suggest community development goals for the city. The final document of the photo elicitation project has provided the City of Centralia administration with an excellent resource document to help complete the city's comprehensive plan.