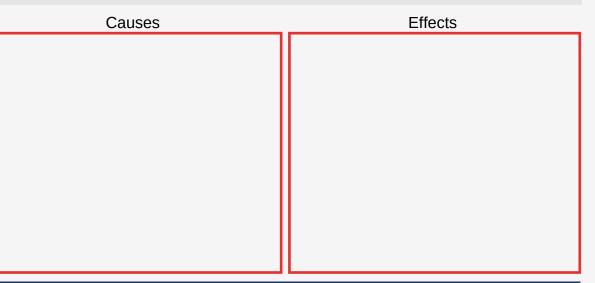# THINKING IT THROUGH

As people work to address problems, they educate themselves about the issue and set goals. Take some time to learn more about the issue or problem you are working on and figure out what civic action you will take next.

## Step 1: What is the problem, issue, or policy you are working on.

## Step 2: Causes & Effects. What causes the problem? What are the effects of the problem?

Tip: Consider things like impact on people, economics, health, equity, short-term, long-term causes/effects. Do some research! This might help you narrow down your issue/problem. Feel free to refine what you wrote in Step 1!  WHST.11-12.1b

| Causes | Effects |
|---|---|
| | |

## Step 3: Policy Connection. Write a paragraph describing how your issue is related to policy.

Tip: Possible ways to connect: Create new policy, modify or eliminate existing policy, use a policy to persuade someone to change, or try to impact the way a policy is enforced. Click for more help.  WHST.11-12.1b

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## Step 4: What is your goal? What would you like to see happen?

Tip: State your goal. Describe what would be different if the problem/issue was resolved. Use specific examples. WHST.11-12.4

## Step 5: Action

What's the first step? If you feel like you know enough about the problem, then you might want to reach out to an expert, a policy-maker, or an advocate. If you need more information, your first step might be to do more research. If you need some ideas, go the the CAP Toolkit or post on the CAP Discussion Board.

The first civic action I'm going to take is...

My intended outcome in taking this action is...

Provide an approximate date for when you expect to complete your civic action(s):

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