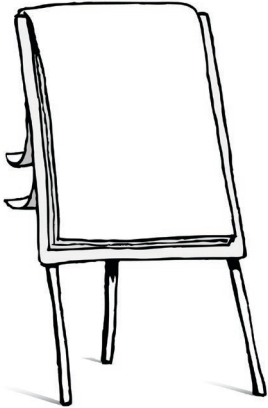


Why Does MU Extension Need a Tax Levy?

Building a Consensus for a Tax Levy

To create a case for your extension district tax levy, you must first build a consensus of ideas that will form the basis of your campaign. The first step is to work through the questions below as a council. Invite MU Extension supporters who are favorable to a levy, as well as extension faculty and staff to help go through these questions. The responses you get should help form the basis of the campaign for the levy.

Work in small groups and report back to the entire meeting. Allow 10-15 minutes per question. Post small-group results on flip charts. For each question, have all participants vote on the responses. Take the top three to five responses. This may take one or two meetings of the entire group.



1. What do you think the ideal overall MU Extension program looks like in your county?
 - a. Issues addressed by extension
 - b. Programs that address the issues and serve the public
 - c. Faculty and staff needed to deliver programs
 - d. Resources needed — funding amounts, equipment, facilities, partners, etc.
 - e. Engagement and service to the county
 - f. Impact of MU Extension on the county
2. Why does MU Extension exist in this county beyond the statutory responsibility?
 - a. Current programming
 - b. Program participation
 - c. Impact in community (behavior change, money generated, youth in 4-H, other metrics that indicate MU Extension helped make changes)
3. What impacts would the county miss, if MU Extension could not provide current programming, or if the county could not achieve the ideal extension program?
 - a. Impact to youth, business, agriculture, community, and personal health and fitness
 - b. Other impacts that occur through engagement and service

From the responses to these three questions, start to form a case — or a vision — for the future of MU Extension in your county. (Refer to the information sheets, *Creating Your Case for a Tax Levy*, and *Calculating the District Tax Levy* for the next steps in the process.)

More information is available in the [MU Extension District Option Manual, Volume 2: Campaigns and Elections](#).