Engaging Minnesota to Help Property Taxpayers

Need for Property Taxpayer Engagement Series

Property taxpayers need help

Problems with the property tax system:

- High tax burden on families, seniors, farmers and businesses. $873 million certified property tax levy increase for 2026 – largest property tax hike in state history
- Too complicated for taxpayers to understand and appreciate. Results in a lack of input and understanding into how budget and levy decisions drive property tax increases
- State property tax relief programs lessen the full impact of local government's levy decisions on property taxpayers
- Low participation by taxpayers in the property tax process

Focusing on the property taxpayer

Looking at the property tax system through a different lens:

Focusing on the PROPERTY TAXPAYER by asking how can state government, local governments and the property tax system benefit property taxpayers?

- Most efforts look at improving the system from the administrative and local government perspectives
- This series of engagement looks at improving the property tax system from the taxpayer's perspective

Engagement: Roundtables, Targeted Outreach, and Surveying

Why engagement is needed:

- No bills creating a property tax task force were enacted during the 2026 Legislative session
- Huge void in any comprehensive and long-term efforts to look at ways to ease the burden of property taxes on property owners and to provide them the tools to effectively influence the property tax budget and levy process
- Property taxes continue to rise increasing frustration for property taxpayers

Helping the Property Taxpayer

Goals of the Property Taxpayer Engagement Series

Will consider ideas and recommendations on how to make the property tax system:

- More understandable to the taxpayer
- More accessible to the taxpayer
- More accountable to the taxpayer
- Less costly and burdensome to the taxpayer

Ideas and recommendations

Ideas and recommendations will focus on:

- How the state can make the property tax system more understandable, accountable, accessible and less burdensome for the property taxpayer.
- How local governments can make the property tax process more understandable, accountable, accessible and less burdensome for the property taxpayer.
- How the property tax process can be improved to make the property tax system more understandable, accountable, accessible and less burdensome for the property taxpayer.

Engagement Opportunities:
Roundtable Meetings, Targeted Outreach, and Surveys

Roundtable meetings

Roundtable meetings (5 or 6 total meetings):

- Date and time TBD, Stassen Building
  - In-person or hybrid meetings open to the public
  - Focusing on one or two property tax issues per meeting
  - Opportunity for public discussion of issues
- DOR staff will administer and facilitate the Roundtables led by the Commissioner

Roundtable participation

This Roundtable series welcomes any interested member of the public to participate

Interested parties may include but are not limited to:	
• State government (MDOR) • Local units of government (cities, counties, school districts, townships, etc.) • Members of the Legislature • Tribal nations	• Homeowners • Business property owners • Farmers • Other interested parties

These meetings will be open to members of the public to attend in-person or virtually

Targeted outreach

Targeted outreach efforts

- The department will also engage in targeted outreach efforts with stakeholder groups
- Meet to discuss and gather specific feedback on the property tax process
- Potential stakeholders include:
  - Members of the Legislature
  - Local units of government (cities, counties, school districts, townships etc.)
  - Tribal nations
  - Homeowners
  - Business property owners
  - Farmers

Hearing from taxpayers

Surveying property taxpayers

- Surveying to gauge property taxpayer's on:
  - Ease of understanding the property tax system
  - Accessibility to property tax levy and budget decisions
  - The accountability of the property tax system to their input
  - The financial burden of the property tax system
- Surveying to establish a baseline to measure effectiveness of ideas and recommendations into the future
- Surveying available on Revenue website, during Roundtable and Targeted Outreach meetings and other events (Minnesota State Fair Revenue booth)

Potential topics

State	Local governments	Property tax process
• Property tax aids and credits • Market value exclusion • Property tax mandates to local governments • Levy limits	• Service delivery • Citizen advisory committee • TIF • Property tax incentives • Local sales tax	• TNT – requirements, timing, information, etc. • Preliminary final levies • Market value assessment • Education

Guiding the work

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Goals for the Property Taxpayer				
	More Understandable	More Accessible	More Accountable	Less Costly and Burdensome
State				
Local Governments				
Property Tax Process				

Goal of chart: 1 – 3 recommendations per goal, attempting to evenly distribute the burden of changes across state and local governments and the property tax process.

Timeline

August through October – Roundtable meetings, Targeted Outreach meetings, and taxpayer surveys

November – Revenue finalizes ideas and recommendations from Roundtable meetings, Targeted Outreach meetings, and surveys

Thank you!

Commissioner Paul Marquart