



Engaging Minnesota to Help Property Taxpayers

Paul Marquart | Commissioner

Agenda

- Welcome
- Need for property taxpayer engagement series
- Helping the property taxpayer
- Overview of engagement opportunities
- Defining the structure and goals
- Upcoming meetings
- Open Forum



Need for Property Taxpayer Engagement Series

Property taxpayers need help

Problems with the property tax system:

- 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

Focus on the Property Taxpayer

Look at the property tax system through a different lens and with a focus on the property taxpayer.

Ask how state government, local governments, and the property tax system can benefit property taxpayers.

- Most efforts look at improving the system from the **administrative and 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.
- Lack of comprehensive and long-term efforts on:
 - Ways to ease the burden of property taxes on property owners
 - Tools for property owners 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

Revenue is considering ideas and recommendations that will improve the property tax system for taxpayers.

Strive for a system that is:

- Easier to understand
- More accessible
- More accountable
- Simpler and less costly

Ideas and Recommendations

Ideas and recommendations will focus on:

- How the **state and local governments** can make the property tax system more understandable, accountable, accessible, and simpler for property taxpayers
- How the **property tax process** can be improved



Engagement Opportunities: Meetings, Targeted Outreach, and Surveys

Roundtable Participation

Any member of the public may attend or participate in person or virtually, such as:

- State government
- Tribal nations
- Local governments
- Members of the Legislature
- Homeowners
- Business property owners
- Farmers
- Renters
- Other interested parties

Targeted Outreach Efforts

- We'll meet to discuss and gather specific feedback on the property tax process from stakeholder groups.
- Potential stakeholders include:
 - Tribal nations
 - Members of the Legislature
 - Local units of government
 - Homeowners
 - Business property owners
 - Farmers

Hearing From Taxpayers

- Survey available to property taxpayers to gauge their feelings on the property tax system.
- Gather ideas and recommendations from property taxpayers
- Surveys available on our website, during sessions, targeted outreach meetings, and other events (our booth at the Minnesota State Fair)

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 • Tax Increment Financing • Property tax incentives • Local sales tax	• Truth in Taxation requirements, timing, information, etc. • Preliminary final levies • Market value assessment • Education

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

December – Revenue will share recommendations with administration and make available to incoming administration and lawmakers



Defining the structure and goals

Structure of Meetings

Recommendations should:

- Be low to no-cost to implement
- Not shift property taxes from one group of taxpayers to another
- Prioritize beneficial impacts to the property taxpayer above all else

Goals for the Property Taxpayer				
	Easier to Understand	More Accessible	More Accountable	Simpler and less costly
State				
Local Governments				
Property Tax Process				

Goals Defined: Easier to Understand

- Taxpayers can follow and navigate the full property tax process from start to finish (assessment, budget, levy, payment) and understand how each step connects to the next
- **Examples:** Revenue's [Understanding Minnesota Property Tax](#) video, Truth in Taxation information

Goals Defined: More Accessible

- Local and state government levy and budget processes are transparent and structured so that showing up, asking questions, or submitting comments is simple, meaningful, and accessible for any taxpayer
- **Examples:** Local government budget meetings, materials available in multiple languages, citizen budget boards, decision-making process transparency

Goals Defined: More Accountable

- Improving the accountability of the property tax process by reinforcing the means in which the property taxpayer may provide input into the property tax levy, budget, or property tax processes
- **Examples:** Revenue's [Appealing Property Value And Classification Guide](#), citizen advisory boards

Goals Defined: Simpler and less costly

- Reducing the financial costs and administrative burden for property taxpayers so they can meet property tax obligations, get help, and navigate the process more easily
- **Examples:** [Taxes & Values](#) webpage from Ramsey County, state mandates, local service delivery

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings are held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Register online to attend. Visit [Engaging Minnesota to Help Property Taxpayers](#) or go to revenue.state.mn.us and enter "**Engaging Minnesota**" into the Search box.

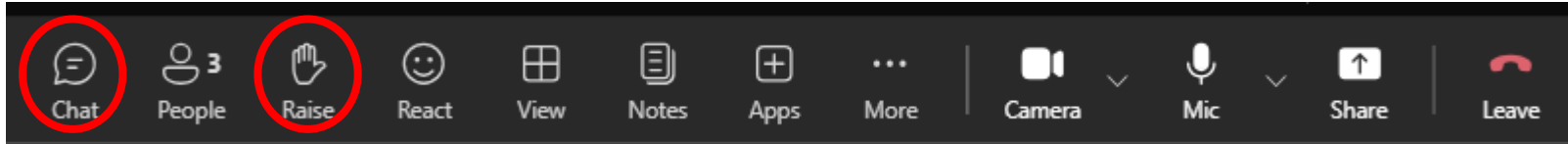
- **August 13:** Introduction and Overview
- **August 18:** Making the System Easier to Understand
- **Sept. 1:** Making the System More Accessible
- **Sept. 15:** Making the System More Accountable
- **Sept. 24:** Making the System Simpler and Less Costly
- **Oct. 15:** Wrap-Up and Reflections from Minnesota Revenue

Defining the Goals - Discussion

What do each of these goals for the property taxpayer mean to you?

- Easier to understand
- More accessible
- More accountable
- Simpler and less costly

Virtual Participation



- Two ways to engage if you are virtual:
 - You can use the chat function to share your thoughts.
 - You can raise your hand.
 - When you are called upon you will be able to turn on our microphone and camera.

Next Meeting

- **Date:** Tuesday, August 18
- **Time:** 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- **Topic:** Making the property tax system easier to understand for property taxpayers
- **In person:** Room 2000, Stassen Building, 600 N. Robert St., St. Paul, MN 55101
- **Virtually:** Link provided upon registration
- **Questions:** Email public.engagement.mdor@state.mn.us

For agenda and registration information, visit [Engaging Minnesota to Help Property Taxpayers](#) or go to revenue.state.mn.us and enter **Engaging Minnesota** into the Search box.



Thank you!
Commissioner Paul Marquart