

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS – EXTENSION REVIEW
 KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS
 FACILITATION GUIDE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

In order to better connect with, and understand the working of your community, the assignment is to interview three elected officials in your community. We are interested in learning the answers to the questions below. Write down what you learn and feel free to ask additional questions as well. Use another sheet of paper if needed. This interview should take 45 minutes to complete.

Explain to the person you are interviewing that you (and every county in the state) are participating in exploring local priorities through a Cooperative Extension assessment process, and you would like their perspectives on the assets and priorities of the community. The overall goals of the assessment are:

Purpose of Community Assessment

- ❖ To gain a better understanding of the County's pressing issues.
- ❖ To enhance Extension's place-based approach by providing information on locally relevant issues in counties.
- ❖ To gain a better understanding of how Extension can support important community change to improve KY.
- ❖ Provide a statewide view of top issues distributed across the state.

Participation in this interview is voluntary, and the content of the conversation will be combined with other data to better understand the issues confronting the county, and collectively, the Commonwealth. Interview content will be shared with the state Extension office to better align knowledge and research resources with county needs.

Person Interviewed: _____

Organization or Affiliation: _____

Based on your experiences, what would you say are the most pressing issues for this county in the next year?

Based on your experiences, what would you say are the most pressing issues for this county in the next four years?

What do you see as the broad (county wide) implications of the priorities you have identified?

Based on your experience, what barriers obstruct addressing the issues?

What type of information or resources could the University of Kentucky/Extension provide to help address these issues?

Thank them for their time and investment in the county. Leave them your business card and information about your Cooperative Extension office and invite them to any upcoming events. Share that the results of these interviews will be compiled with other county data and that the Extension Office will be bringing a report back to the county.