

In order to ensure that you and your group have the most positive and productive experience engaging in Maximize NWMO's program "Building Strong Teams for Community Excellence," we request that you complete this self-assessment prior to our first session. All participants will be asked to share where their collaborative community efforts currently stand. We recognize that all participants may be at different points in their journey.

STEP 1:

Gather a small group of people who are interested in learning more about applying The Maximize [My Community] Journey™ to your community development and improvement efforts. This worksheet is designed to help your group determine where to start in embarking upon your Journey as a multi-sector collaborative group.

STEP 2:

We recommend that each person in your group complete the assessment individually and then come together to discuss each statement and/or question to come up with a collective answer. If there are varying levels of knowledge about a topic, go with the most knowledgeable perspective in your group. If you are not sure of the answer, use your best judgment. You are also free to contact our Navigation Team and Network Coordination and Support members at together@maximizenwmo.org with your questions and your contact information.

STEP 3:

Mark the box that best describes your understanding of your community and its leaders in formal (i.e. those with elected or paid titles) and informal (i.e. civic and social organization volunteer titles) positions.

#	Question	We don't know enough to answer. 1 POINT	No, this doesn't describe our situation. 2 POINTS	This sort of describes our situation. 3 POINTS	Yes! This describes our situation. 4 POINTS
EX	We are interested in learning more about how communities in our primarily rural region and across the country are improving the places they live, learn, work, and play.				4
1	We are a group of at least 3-5 individuals who have gathered to complete this assessment and are committed to working together over the next several years.				
2	Our community/county has an existing organized group with several representatives who work together on shared priorities. This group has been together for several years or more and is willing to learn and apply The Maximize [My Community] Journey™ to our collaborative work. <i>(If you responded with a 3 or 4, please fill in the answers to the next two questions before moving to Question 3.)</i>				
2a	What is the name of this group?				
2b	How is it structured? (Formally organized, informally organized, hierarchal or distributed leadership?)				
3	Our group, whether new or existing, is made up of representatives from multiple sectors, population segments, and areas of interest within our community/county.				
3a	Who is involved? What sectors are represented?				
4	Our group's collaboration (working together) efforts could improve to more effectively produce our intended results.				

5	Our group would benefit from having a proven framework/model as a guide that helps us be more inclusive, organized, and sustainable.				
6	We want to empower our group and others to be more engaged and effective at collaboration, decision-making, and following through on our plans for our community/county.				
7	We have important issues or challenges that need addressing in our community/county that fit into one or more of the following areas: (1) health care, wellness and safety, (2) educational quality, access, and attainment, (3) economic and business vitality, (4) housing quality and availability, (5) built environment (infrastructure, utilities, broadband, etc.) (6) natural environment (air, water, land, etc.), and, (7) social connections. <i>(If you responded with a 3 or 4, please fill in the answers to the next two questions before moving to Question 6.)</i>				
7a	What are these issues or challenges?				
7b	Who is already working on these issues or challenges in your community or county?				
8	The formal leaders (<i>i.e. those with elected or paid titles</i>) in our community and county, at large, seem to be interested in becoming a place that maximizes its potential through resilience and excellence by working with informal leaders and residents.				
9	Our informal leaders (<i>i.e. civic and social organization volunteer titles</i>), at large, seem to be interested in becoming a place that maximizes its potential through resilience and excellence by working with formal leaders.				
10	Our community or county, at large, actively engages youth in decision-making and civic involvement and invests in leadership development activities and programs for all ages of youth and adults.				
11	The formal and informal leaders, at large, in our community/county could improve their efforts to build relationships with people representing many different voices in our place (ages, genders, races, religions, income levels, political views, neighborhoods, etc.).				
Column Totals					
Overall Total					

STEP 4:

Total the score in each column. Your score serves as an indicator of what areas you might be most interested in focusing further learning on throughout your "Building Strong Teams for Community Excellence" experience. We look forward to engaging with you as you apply The Maximize [My Community] Journey to difference-making collaboration in your community and/or county.

STEP 5:

Please share your completed assessment with the Maximize NWMO facilitation team by emailing it to together@maximizenwmo.org or texting a photo of each page to 816.588.2730. The information will help us better understand your strengths so we can help you build upon them. Thank you!