

The steps to an MSTU



Clouds of dust settle behind the car wheels every time you and your neighbors drive down your subdivision's main road. Most of you have lived in the area for many years and have grown tired of the dirt and dust that rises with each passing car. You wonder what you could do as a group to improve the road that leads to your driveways.

A call to the Marion County MSTU/Assessment department might be the right first step to take. The department works with residential groups to procure

services or resources in subdivision areas where property owners would like to see improvements.

Department programs include: MSTUs (municipal service taxing units), MSBUs (municipal service benefit units) and road improvements. The programs, paid for specifically by those who use the services and not through general taxpayer fund, offer property owners options to achieve their goals of road paving, street lighting, community centers and more for their subdivisions.

How MSTUs are created:



Step 1: Citizen request

Interested residents submit an application to the MSTU/Assessment department via their homeowners or civic association or via petition signed by 10 percent of the assessable property owners.



Step 2: Department review

Department staff reviews project application. If complete, staff mails petitions to property owners in affected area.



Step 3: Resident response

Residents respond to and mail completed petitions within 60 days. Responses are tabulated by the Clerk of the Court's internal auditor.



Step 4: Public hearing

Petitions are presented to the Marion County Board of County Commissioners at a public hearing if there are sufficient responding property owners in favor.



Step 5: Project commencement

If accepted, the requested project is added to a working list. Staff begins the procurement process for the desired service or resource.

Contact Marion County MSTU/Assessment at:

Location: 2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala

Phone: 352-438-2650

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Website: www.marioncountyfl.org/mstu.htm

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