**Question 1: What thoughts/words came to mind after reviewing the results of the poll?**

Mike O'Neill: Urban agriculture is critical. Water resources in urban areas is a major consideration.

Enrique Nelson Escobar: Plenty of work

Brian Schilling: Need to modernize/make contemporary the messaging of what CES is/does.  Locally, extension is often viewed as 'support for farming', narrowly define.

Chris Watkins: Comprehensive and inclusive

Mike O'Neill: More to do than we have people to address.

Brent Hales: This encompasses all of our programs and presents opportunities to engage across the programs in collaborative work.

William Hare: Similar to National Priorities

*Primary Takeaways: There is a lot to do, and limited resources to do it. This information can and should be used to modernize how extension talks about itself internally and messages externally.*

**Question 2: Why was it important to identify key priority issues under the Focus Areas and Administration and Operations?**

Mike O'Neill: Like most extension work, there's more work than we have people or resources to address.

Brent Hales: It helps me know what the regional perspectives are versus PA as a stand alone perspective

William Hare: Stay focused with limited resources

William Miller: To foster potential connections and collaborations across the region

Chris Watkins: As a framework but only useful insofar as extension directors can make investments.

Brian Schilling: Create foci for resources.  Opportunities to collaborate cross-states

Nelson Escobar: Allocation of resources, expertise

*Primary Takeaways: There is a lot to do, and limited resources to do it. We can use this to choose a focus for regional collaboration BUT we must be deliberate in how we prioritize action, foster connections and collaborations, and allocate resources.*


**Question 3: Are there any priority issues missing under any of the Focus Areas that should be added?**

Jorge Atiles: Racial understanding

William Hare: Equity imperative

Nelson Escobar: Racial/ethnicity priorities

Brian Schilling: I agree, Chris. Understanding regional/national supply chain and distribution systems

**Question 4. How will this information guide the work of the NE Region?**

Brent Hales: By giving us reasonable targets for collaboration in-states and across state lines.

Nelson Escobar: Programmatic inclusion

Ali Mitchell: Help us understand intersections of practitioner and administrator priorities

Mike O'Neill: We have the most people (urban) of any region, it is important for us to link the people with the food supply and their health.

Dan Lerner: Agree with Mike

Jorge Atiles: Right now is very top level, birds eye look into areas. We need to translate those into issues that extension needs to develop capacity to address if appropriate and aligned with our missions

William Miller: How can urban activities be integrated into the core of what extension does, rather than being seen as reducing capacity for more traditional types of programming

Brent Hales: Agree with all of the comments

Brian Schilling: Bill's point is critical

Mike O'Neill: Agree

Brent Hales: To accomplish these, we will need to become aggregators of content and effort versus direct providers. There are too many players in urban areas and our budgets are too small to make a dent.

Dan Lerner: Good point Brent. Extension has skill at this and, also, being the facilitators communities need (as distinct from direct providers of service).

Chris Watkins: An issue is that we have over 40 independent research/extension projects in NYC but based on competitive funding success not based on anything other than personal priorities. Points to need for capacity funding, but that means moving resources.

*Primary Takeaways: We can work together on a small selection of interdisciplinary issue areas but should consider shifting HOW we do the work. Rather than the primary creators and deliverers of work can we aggregate content, facilitate community dialogue to clarify needs with other service providers, and identify key issues that require LGU study.*

**Repository Specific Comments:**

Jorge Atiles: A repository is helpful. Can it include a repository of funding models for urban extension? I am concerned at how we can fund significant implementation of best practices and the extension programs that are successful. I would love for us to think together at how we can increase personnel

and volunteer numbers to even make a difference in urban settings. That involves a shift in cooperative funding agreements to include municipal governments and other entities.

Chris Watkins: How up to date is this repository? Activities change all the time, and if I have ever been asked, it is a long time ago.

Amy Ouellette: Are state NUEL coordinators tasked with keeping the repository up-to-date?

Chris Watkins: I am allegedly one of them for NY, but have not been asked, so I suggest NO :-)

Ali Mitchell: The repository is updated and maintained by Chris O. on a rolling basis. I am happy to help make sure you are comfortable with the completeness of what is included.

Chris Obropta: Funding sources for the projects and programs have been identified in the repository. Our hope is that the State Urban Coordinators will help us keep the repository up to date.

Ali Mitchell: Doing that transition may be something that NEED can consider funding/giving an official institutional home.

Chris Obropta: One hope was to have success stories (with measurable impacts) for each of the programs in the repository.

*Primary Takeaways: The repository will be most useful if connected to funding mechanisms and an exploration of how to learn from successful programs to duplicate partnerships, arrangements, etc. (example: how MOUs have been established, cost sharing programs, volunteer recruitment efforts…)*

**Special Questions for future conversation:**

Mike O'Neill: I think that Brian mentioned that some of us (NEED) have limited capacity to expand programming in urban areas - without new resources. We are more likely to be facilitators not program delivery. Also, in our state, we have multiple groups who are active in urban areas - we won't supplant them so we have to collaborate with those groups.

William Miller: Mike makes a good point.  We have to be tactical and plan to facilitate, build upon or enhance existing programs in lieu of creating new ones