

To: The People of Orange County

Orange County Government has the tradition:

*"You Count **In Orange** County"*

The Orange County Tax Assessor's Office adds to this:

"Bring us your questions We're here to help"

That's the purpose of this packet, to answer as many question as you may have concerning the revaluation, its process, its purpose, and how it relates to you and your property. Our hope is that you will view the Office of the Tax Assessor as an ally and friend, not an adversary.

The process of revaluation requires gathering information from a myriad of sources. In our pursuit, we engaged the assistance of numerous local experts in the field of real estate sales, appraisal, development, financing, contracting and the Triangle Multiple Listing Service. Through this process, and based on local sales data, which is the basis for the revaluation, we have determined that since 2005 (the previous revaluation) Orange County values have increased. This is good news compared to what is being reported in many areas across our nation.

We have always enlisted an open approach and encourage the input of Orange County residents to help us to improve our values and "get it right". We understand that each property is unique and each holds nuances that may either attract or detract from its value. Therefore, we welcome and encourage your input.

We want your involvement. Please take an opportunity to review the attached "Valuation Input & Review Form" and look to our office for whatever degree of assistance you may need.

Additionally, there are several tax-saving programs available to our senior and disabled residents as well as Disabled Veterans. A couple of these programs are new for 2009 and we are available to assist you in determining if you qualify. Brochures on these programs are enclosed.

Sincerely,

John Smith, Jr., CAE Assessor,
Orange County