

WHITFIELD MAILING OUT ANNUAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT NOTICES ON FRIDAY, MAY 25

The Whitfield County Board of Assessors mailed out annual property assessment notices for 48,000 real estate and personal property accounts on Friday, May 25. Taxpayers should expect assessments to arrive by mail in the coming days.

For tax year 2018, the Assessor's office saw the median sales price and the total volume of sales increase in Whitfield County. In the Dalton Metropolitan area, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) reported a 6.73% year-to-date increase in the Housing Price Index (HPI), which was consistent with our own data measurements within the office. Despite the increase in median sale prices, the Board of Assessors did not recommend a county-wide increase in residential housing values.

In a few instances, based on sales data collected by staff members and conditions within specific neighborhoods, adjustments were made to the valuation of a few residential areas of the county. This was also true for commercial and industrial property. As a whole, most real estate parcels will not see a change in value this year.

Nationwide upward trends in the home building market have reached Whitfield County. The Assessor's office saw an increase in the amount of new construction started and completed in Whitfield County last year. We expect trends to continue into the next year.

The Board of Assessors put in place an audit program to review personal property accounts on a regular basis. This program has yielded better accuracy within our commercial and industrial personal property digest, and has led to better accuracy of inventory and equipment reporting. As always, Personal property values are heavily weighted by data supplied by taxpayers on their annual tax return forms, which were due April 1.

If you have questions or concerns about your assessment notice, feel free to contact the Assessor's office at 706-275-7410 or visit us on the ground level of the Whitfield County Courthouse. A tax payer has 45 days to file a written appeal of their property assessment notice. Owners can appeal their assessment based on value, uniformity, taxability, denial of exemption, breach of covenant and/or denial of covenant. The deadline to file a written appeal is July 9, 2017.

Ashley O'Donald

Chief Appraiser

Whitfield County Board of Assessors

706-275-7410