



PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Annual Property Inspections being conducted by City Assessing Office

The City Assessor's Office will be conducting the annual review of residential parcels from now until December 31. The State Tax Commission has recommended that all Michigan Assessing Officers review at least 20% of parcel records within their jurisdiction annually. This project will insure the accuracy of the recorded information used to calculate property valuations. The review for this year will include residential property located North of the Canal and along Riverside Drive. The property owners within these areas have already been contacted and made aware of the upcoming property inspections.

The field appraiser will be gathering information on properties that ultimately affect the market value. Factors such as size, age, structural integrity, and extra features such as fireplaces and extra bathrooms are taken into consideration. The sale price of homes in the area within the last year is also a factor that affects market value.

The Field Appraiser only needs to inspect the exterior of the buildings so it will not be necessary for property owners to be home at the time. This inspection includes taking pictures and measuring structures on the property to attain accurate square footage. A door tag will be left with the Field Appraiser's contact information and an explanation of the inspection process.

The annual inspections are important because they keep real estate values in the City updated. Since not all properties increase and decrease in value at the same rate, each property will be visited and individual value will be calculated.

Property owners will be notified of changes to their property's valuation when the Assessing Change Notices are mailed toward the end of February. Property values are considered public record, and are available on the City's public information website at <http://www.accessmygov.com/?uid=1060>. You may also call the City Assessor's office at 906-632-5710.

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