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Arapahoe County property valuation protest period begins May 2 *Assessor's Office offers protest appointments in person, by mail or online*

Arapahoe County property owners who want to contest their property values have until June 1 to file a protest with the Assessor's Office.

Arapahoe County property owners should receive their valuation notices this week and will have the opportunity to protest their property values with the Assessor's Office in person, online or on the road.

To make the process easier, the Assessor's Office offers property owners a variety of methods to protest their valuations. Protests can be filed by mail, faxed to 303-797-1295, filed in person or through the County's web site. To protest online, visit the County's web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us and click on *Residential Protest Period: May 2-June 1* found under the *What's New* section on the home page. To fill out the protest form, enter the Control Number and parcel ID, both of which are found under the name and address on valuation notices.

Property owners also can research the values of properties in their neighborhood and schedule an appointment to meet the Assessor's Office appraisal staff.

Online protests and protests conducted by mail, fax or in person will be accepted through 4:30 p.m., June 1.

Assessor Ed Bosier also will take protest appointments on the road. Bosier and County Assessor staff will offer personal protest appointments at Heather Gardens Retirement Community in Aurora and at First National Bank of Strasburg in Byers.

Protest appointments will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 9-13 at Heather Gardens Main Clubhouse, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora. Assessor staff will be available for protest appointments 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. May 9-13 at First National Bank of Strasburg, 538 N. Highway 36, Byers.

Assessed valuations on residential property are likely to increase an average 3 percent based on real estate market transactions between Jan. 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004. The Assessment Ratio, which is the percentage of the actual value of which your property tax rate is based on – remains at 7.96 percent. Ultimately, that means property taxes in Arapahoe County will remain roughly the same or slightly less than the previous year.

Questions? Contact the Assessor's Office at 303-795-4600.
