

## **FAQ'S - City Wide Re-Inspection of All Properties**

### **Why are people measuring and photographing my property?**

The residential inspection program ensures compliance with the Michigan State Tax Commission and the Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements. This re-inspection will assure fair and equitable assessment of each property. Part of updating the assessing department records requires an exterior measurement of the home/building as well as measurements of any improvement on the property. A photograph is taken for City records and for informational purposes.

### **Will everything on my property be measured and inspected?**

Yes, some items will be picked up as informational items only, but the State of Michigan requires any improvements, big or small, to be inspected and measured.

### **When will the results of the inspections affect my tax bill?**

If your property is inspected from 07/01/21 - 12/31/21 and changes occurred to the property, you will see the adjustment (which can be either an increase or decrease) on your 2022 tax bills. Look for your notice of assessment which is mailed out every year at the end of February to see how your assessed value and taxable value is impacted. You may also obtain a copy of your record card at the end of February 2022 to see the results of the re-inspection.

### **Do you need to go in my backyard or inside my home?**

Our assessors are required to go into your backyard to complete the inspection. They will first knock at the door; if there is no answer they will begin to measure the front of the house/building and make their way around to the back of the property. Our assessors **DO NOT** need to be inside your home during the inspection. Everything we need to see will be reviewed on an exterior basis only. If a business card is left, please call our office.

### **How will I identify city employees?**

The assessors will have clearly marked city-issued identification badges. They will typically be carrying a clipboard and tape measure. If further identification is needed, please do not hesitate to call the Department of Assessment at 734-782-2463 to verify their identity.

### **What if I made no changes to the property since it was purchased?**

Though you may not have made any changes to the property since you purchased it, our records may still require updating. Some of the properties have not been visited since they were originally built.

### **What is going to change value to the assessment and what is not?**

General maintenance items such as new gutters, roof, windows, etc. are not assessable items. The leading contributors to an increased/decreased assessment include but are not limited to: air conditioning, decks, porches, patios, sheds, additions, demolitions, garages, carports, and barns.

### **Is there any way to protest the 2022 Assessment?**

Every year at the end of February, a notice of assessment is mailed to every property in the City of Flat Rock. Once it is received, please review the information provided. A list of dates and times to protest at the local March Board of Review is included. Please call our office by the end of February if you have not received your notice of assessment. The March Board of Review is the only time a taxpayer can appeal their residential home value.