

## Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller

July 16, 2015

## **Roane County Reappraisal Reaches Milestone**

The Comptroller's Division of Property Assessments has reached a significant milestone in its effort to ensure a fair and accurate property reappraisal for the citizens of Roane County.

The Division of Property Assessments is confident that property values for tax year 2015 now meet acceptable standards. The Assessor and his staff can now begin sending new value notices to Roane County property owners, and provide taxpayers with both informal and formal opportunities to appeal individual assessments.

On February 26 the State Board of Equalization directed the Division to take all steps necessary to complete the reappraisal process after serious concerns were raised about the ability of the Assessor and his staff to manage the process in a timely manner.

Division staff overcame numerous challenges and corrected significant errors during their time in Roane County. To date, 12 Comptroller employees have worked nearly 2,400 hours to achieve confidence in the process. Division staff will remain available to assist in the appeal process.

Comptroller staff will provide a more in depth presentation to the Roane County Commission during its scheduled meeting on August 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

The Division is reporting an overall decline in the assessment of Roane County property of 3.47%. The tax neutral rate for Roane County is still being calculated, however the tax neutral rate for the City of Oak Ridge has been calculated to be \$2.52.

"The people of Roane County deserve a fair and accurate reappraisal," Comptroller Chief of Staff Jason Mumpower said. "I am encouraged by our progress to date, and we will remain engaged throughout the appeal process. Finally, we will continue to ensure the Roane County assessor's office is equipped to manage the process going forward."

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