

August 9, 2021

Hi Heber City Council and Mayor

The Wasatch Taxpayers Association is concerned about the proposed Heber City tax increase discussed at the August 11, 2021 truth in taxation hearing. We have known that the Wasatch County Assessor has not been uniformly assessing properties for the last decade, or more, and have approached the County in the last few weeks to get them to correct the process. Heber City needs to be aware of this and help get the County to straighten this out as soon as possible. To increase taxes on your citizens now, without seriously looking at the inequities in the current County process, would be making a huge mistake and would also be a dereliction of duty.

We believe that correcting the tax assessment problem should actually bring in more taxes for Heber City, where that a tax increase would not be necessary. Also, a tax increase now would only make these inequities worse and harm some citizens greatly who are already over assessed.

We are attaching examples of our research. We will email them in a few emails, if the files are too big. Some of these properties were randomly searched, and their names are on them. We are only sending them to you, at this point, even though anyone can search this information. You will see many problems.

Some have not been assessed since 2011, others show they've been "updated" recently but the values have not been increased much if at all, while others seemed to have been picked on and assessed multiple times in the last few years. Land values are not uniformly assessed throughout the city, and some are on greenbelt or a very low assessment. Most of the square footage is wrong because the County does not include basement sqft, and we're not sure if homes have ever been re-assessed if additions or renovations were done over time. Commercial properties are undervalued in a lot of cases, which will be sent in a future email.

Please do not raise taxes at this time and help the Wasatch Taxpayers Association in getting Wasatch County caught up in their assessments. It's a very complicated, huge problem, and we need sharp minds to figure out how to temporarily stop the bleeding while they get a system in place to make this process fair and equitable.

We look forward to working together to make our tax base correct while treating everyone equally.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss further.

Tracy Taylor

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