



# PROPERTY APPRAISER

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## **MEDIA RELEASE FOR RELEASE August 13, 2007**

**Contact:** Property Appraiser's Office (727) 464-3207

### **PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX NOTICES ON THE WAY**

**Pinellas County** – On **Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**, The Pinellas County Property Appraiser will mail the Notice of Proposed Property Taxes, also known as the Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notice, to property owners of Pinellas County. Tax bills mailed by the Tax Collector in November will be based on this notice.

A TRIM notice informs the property owner of the estimated market value of his or her property **as of January 1**, any exemptions applied to the property, and the estimated taxes due to each Taxing Authority. The phone number and date of budget meetings for each Taxing Authority is listed as well.

Arriving with the TRIM Notice will be a new TRIM Guide. The TRIM Guide clearly explains the information listed on the Notice, new laws that may affect property owners, and the steps to take if a property owner disagrees with the property value.

If you have questions about the value or exemptions posted on a TRIM notice, call the Property Appraiser's office right away to speak with an appraiser. If after conferring with an appraiser you still disagree with the valuation, we encourage you to file a petition with the Pinellas County Value Adjustment Board (VAB). (The VAB has voted to collect a \$15.00 non-refundable filing fee for petitions to the board, and petitions must be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court.)

The main function of your Property Appraiser's office is to determine the assessed value of property as of January 1. Once value is established, the property appraiser provides taxing authorities with the accurate and uniform property values, and those authorities use those values to establish their tax rates (also known as Millage rates).

The Property Appraiser's office has produced a video entitled "How to Challenge Your Appraisal" to assist anyone wishing to file a petition. It can be seen on Channel 18 during August and September, rented from your local library, or viewed from the website, [www.pcpao.org](http://www.pcpao.org).

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