

An open letter to all Douglas County Taxing Authorities from the Board of Douglas County Commissioners

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR THE HOMEOWNERS YOU SERVE – LET’S ALL ACT NOW

Join us for a meeting of all Douglas County Taxing Authorities on September 25 from 4 – 6 p.m. at the Phillip S. Miller Building, 100 Third Street, Castle Rock.

You are a recognized leader of a local taxing authority in Douglas County, serving during one of the most historically significant moments in our state’s history.

Countywide, the median increase in Douglas County home values is 47%, leading to an approximate 35% - 40% increase in property taxes in 2024. At a time when the cost of living has left many struggling to cover the cost of food, gasoline, homeowner’s insurance, and shelter, many homeowners, especially older adults, are desperately concerned about their ability to stay in their homes. As your commissioners, we recognize that as property taxes are local – the solution must also be local.

Our collective leadership is required if we are to provide true tax relief to the property owners of Douglas County. As such we are hosting this meeting, with Douglas County Assessor Toby Damisch and Treasurer Dave Gill, with the primary goal to reach a property tax relief solution for the property owners we all serve.

Save the date and watch for your invitation to this event on September 25, when representatives from local taxing authorities in Douglas County will gather, receive the Assessor’s Certifications and related information needed to calculate your 2024 mill levy, including an opportunity to view the data with and without the impact of Prop HH; and discuss among us how we can collaborate on a plan to reduce the total mill rates that impact Douglas County property owners.

Keep in mind that SB23-108, Allowing Temporary Reductions in Property Tax Due, a bipartisan measure, passed in the final hours of this legislative session, provides taxing entities clear authority to float mill levies as needed so long as they don’t exceed what voters approved. This new law was strongly supported by all Douglas County Senators and Representatives, as well as our Board.

Because we do have the authority to act, and the property owners we serve are facing historic property tax increases, well above the rate of inflation, we believe that we all must act and act now. Our hope is to do so with you as part of the solution. Together we can reduce the total mill rates that impact property owners. Please join us on September 25 with your ideas, recommendations, and energy to be part of the solution.

Respectfully,

Abe Laydon, District 1, Board Chair
George Teal, District 2, Board Vice Chair
Lora Thomas, District 3

Visit <https://www.douglas.co.us/taxing-authorities-summit> for additional information.

RSVP to TaxingAuthoritySummit@douglas.co.us or contact the Assessor’s Office at 303.663.6201.