



- Save your daily drives
- Schedule real-time alerts
- Get alerts by email, phone, PDA



Search Go

chicagotribune.com

Web enhanced by Google

HOME DELIVERY

Login or register

- Classified**
- Cars
 - Jobs
 - Real estate
 - Apartments
 - Local stores & deals
 - Dating
 - Pets
 - Items for sale
 - Place an ad



Shopping

Weather

Commuting

Traffic

News

- Local
 - Triblocal
 - Nation/World
 - Politics/Elections
 - Religion
 - Health & Fitness
 - Education
 - Death notices
 - News obituaries
 - Special reports
 - Off topic

Blogs

Opinions/Editorials

Business

Sports

Entertainment

Living

Travel

Video

Photos/Multimedia

Resources

- Newsletters/alerts
- Mobile
- MyNews
- RSS feeds
- Send a news tip
- Tribune Store
- Accuracy
- About us
- Tribune staff
- Archives
- News in education
- Most popular
- Site map

Newspaper services

- Today's paper
- Subscribe now
- Subscriber Advantage
- Vacation hold
- Delivery issue
- Pay bill
- Contact us

Home > Local news

Assessments irk Grayslake group

By Andrew L. Wang | Tribune staff reporter
November 27, 2007

Annoyed with what they believe are inconsistent property assessments and a nearly impenetrable appeals process, a group of Grayslake residents wants to give Lake County residents the knowledge to take up their cases with county officials.

In July, members of Citizens Action Project issued a report, based on six months of research of local property tax records, that called the assessment process "unusually bereft of due process" and therefore unfair.

Now the group is planning an informational meeting to show homeowners how to challenge their home's assessed value.

Article tools

- E-mail
- Share
- Print
- Single page view
- Reprints
- Post Comment

Text size:

Ads by Google

360 Degree Feedback Evals
360° feedback evaluations online 7 key performance management tools
www.Feedback360Degree.com

Property Tax
Get Sales History, Current Value Lot Size, Property Details & More.
www.Intelius.com

Family Law Firm
Christian Law Firm Serving Lake, McHenry & Northern Cook
www.goldenrulelaw.com

What's My House Worth?
HouseValues' free service helps you determine the value of your home.
www.HouseValues.com

Nationwide Tax Reports
Comprehensive Tax Info on Any Residential Property, in Any County
www.AmericanTitleInc.com

The public meeting, titled "What Your Township Assessor Doesn't Want You to Know," is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Byron Colby Barn, 1561 Jones Point Rd. Information is available at Citizensactionproject.org.

"We have several citizens who have successfully appealed and we've picked out the examples that show how to do it," said Steve Minsky, CAP's vice president.

CAP members took up the issue of property assessments after some noticed significant year-to-year increases in assessed values in some properties and widely varying assessments among similar properties.

Among the group's conclusions was that the methods used by assessors should be more transparent, and there should be more county oversight of assessors.

Lake County Chief Assessor Martin

Paulson declined to comment on the group's report, saying that assessors in the county's 18 townships do the property assessments, not his office.

Paulson said he and his staff have held numerous public meetings on the subject and added features to the office's Web site -- <http://www.co.lake.il.us/assessor> -- to help homeowners understand the process, including a searchable database they can use to find properties comparable to their own.

"That goes right to the heart of transparency," Paulson said. "We'll continue to do this type of thing that will help taxpayers."

At Tuesday's meeting, the group plans to explain the appeals process and outline strategies for a successful appeal before the Lake County Board of Review, Minsky said. The group recommends that homeowners conduct research using the assessor's Web site on comparable properties, get an independent appraisal and learn and understand the appeals process.

State Sen. Michael Bond (D-Grayslake), who plans to attend Tuesday's meeting, said that his office is looking for ways to improve the transparency of the assessment process. His office is also exploring how to address inconsistencies among townships, the bodies that perform assessments, he said.

"Each township assessor operates as a completely independent body," Bond said. "There are some best-practices for evaluating real estate, and some choose to adopt those and some choose to use their own methods."

[More articles](#)

News from your community

- Chicago neighborhoods-- GO
- Cook suburbs-- GO
- DuPage suburbs-- GO
- Kane suburbs-- GO
- Lake suburbs-- GO
- McHenry suburbs-- GO
- Will suburbs-- GO

Suggestions? [Send us an e-mail.](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Search classifieds

HOMES SHOP CARS JOBS

Alerts, open houses, loan search

New homes City or ZIP: State:



Real Estate Video Clips

New developments & custom homes

Popular stories

Most viewed Most e-mailed

Man is dragged by car after defending Christmas decorations from vandals

Free or fee? Air pump tiff at tollway

Cops told Peterson sought transport

Cubs, Sox target outfielders at winter meetings

2 children killed in Southwest Side fire

[More most viewed](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

It's Chicagoland's Gift.

CHICAGO top jobs

RECEPTIONIST/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS, PORTERS, MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TRAINING INSTRUCTOR

CABINET MAKER

Search Chicago jobs

GO

All Chicago jobs

Post resume

Post a job

powered by **careerbuilder**

Would you recommend this?

Rate it: ☆☆☆☆☆

Type in your comments to post to the forum

Name (appears on your post)

Comments

Type the numbers you see in the image on the right:

Post Comment



Please note by clicking on "Post Comment" you acknowledge that you have read the [Terms of Service](#) and the comment you are posting is in compliance with such terms. **Be polite.** Inappropriate posts may be removed by the moderator.

Traffic

Check traffic hot spots | Sign up for alerts

	I-94 Edens Exwy	Out In
	I-90 Kennedy Exwy	Out In
	I-290 Eisenhower Exwy	Out In
	I-55 Stevenson Exwy	Out In
	I-90 / I-94 Dan Ryan Exwy	Out In

Find cheap gas in your area

School report card

School Name

District

City

Search | [Learn more](#)

Illinois crime statistics

Select county:

Cook
De Kalb
Du Page
Grundy
Kane

Search

Or choose a city or town:

Search | **Reset**

HAVE BREAKING NEWS? BREAK IT TO US.

Breaking news tips

- [Online letter form](#)
- [Customer service](#)

[amNY](#) | [Baltimore Sun](#) | [Daily Press](#) | [Hartford Courant](#) | [LA Times](#) | [Newsday](#) | [Orlando Sentinel](#) | [Sun-Sentinel](#) | [The Morning Call](#) | [The Virginia Gazette](#)

Local partners: | [Triblocal](#) | [metromix.com](#) | [chicagosports.com](#) | [ChicagoLive](#) | [Chicago Magazine](#) | [Hoy Chicago](#) | [RedEye](#) | [CLTV](#) | [WGN-TV](#) | [WGN-AM](#)

Site policies: | [Terms of service](#) | [Privacy](#)
