

August 8, 2019

The Honorable Frank White, Jr. Jackson County Courthouse 415 E. 12th St. Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear County Executive White,

Ward Parkway Homes Association represents residents of more than 840 homes in Jackson County who live between the eastbound lane of Gregory Boulevard, the westbound lane of 75th Street, the northbound lane of State Line Road and the southbound lane of Wornall Road.

We write on their behalf to express our concerns regarding the 2019 property reassessment values.

Our residents report enormous swings in home and land values, often within the same block. Those swings, coupled with news reports from a county employee whistleblower, cast doubt on the process used to determine the 2019 reassessments and, therefore, on the reassessments themselves.

Furthermore, many WPHA residents report they never received a copy of their updated reassessment. Some will only discover this increase when notified by their bank of an increase in monthly mortgage payments. Others who own their homes outright will be hit with an enormous increase in December. Renters will see rents increased exponentially in response to these egregious reassessments.

Many WPHA residents are elderly. Some are on fixed incomes. Others are first-time homeowners just starting a career and family. Our residents cannot absorb such large increases in taxes, mortgage payments, and rents.

While an argument can be made that many Kansas City neighborhoods have been undervalued for years, it is unconscionable that residents should be expected to absorb increases as drastically large as those recently received, especially in light of the questionable process used to determine those values.

On behalf of the residents who call the WPHA home, we respectfully request you discard the 2019 reassessments and provide satisfactory resolution to this intolerable situation.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors Ward Parkway Homes Association

CC: Tony Miller Gail McCann Beatty Marilyn Shapiro
Quentin Lucas Christopher Smith Forestine Beaseley