

# PROPERTY TAX WORKING GROUP

*Protecting homeowners, strengthening neighborhoods.*

## April Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 18, 2019 | 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  
Human Resources Training Room B (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
Two Centennial Plaza, 805 Central Avenue

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### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- 16 working group members
- 20 community members
- 5 staff

### 2. Review of Purpose and Expectations of the Working Group (Co-Chairs)

### 3. Public Meeting Debrief (Discussion of major themes and takeaways)

- Tax abatements
- Need for housing court
- Passion
- Fairness
- Adequate development for community
- Transparency
- Rising property taxes
- Tax levies
- Tax relief for seniors allowing them to stay in their homes

### 4. Work Plan

#### ***Areas of focus***

- Taxes and seniors (in a long term home – can be generational)
  - Look into freezing taxes
    - Must consider impact on other taxes and what services they fund
- Tax abatement review
  - Evaluate when they are needed and when they should stop (what's the trigger?)
  - Look into possibility of making them non-referable
- Education

#### ***Educational materials needed***

- Information on the tax abatement policy
  - What were the goals? Are they being accomplished?
  - What has been the impact of tax abatements?
  - Share information from DCED CRA meeting

- List of tax abated properties
- Education/outreach to minority-owned businesses/small developers
- How does the valuation process work?
- What makes up the pie of property tax?
- Tax levies – must have frank conversation about this
- Information from Buildings and Inspections on home repair assistance programs, inspections
- Data
  - Numbers of seniors in city (breakdown by neighborhood)
  - Numbers of disabled people in city (breakdown by neighborhood)
  - Total cost of ownership
- State impact/interaction with property taxes

### ***Other Tasks***

- Identify what other people/entities need to be involved
  - Lobbyist?
  - Outreach to State representatives
  - Invite School District Treasurer (Eve Bolton volunteered to invite)
- Gather best practices/studies
  - MN policy on seniors and taxes
  - Franklin County and Indianapolis studies on tax abatements
  - CA's Prop 13
  - Homestead Exemption
  - Other models for tax relief for seniors
- Frame the PTWG narrative

### **5. Next Steps**

- May 16<sup>th</sup>: Working Group Meeting