

Property Tax Workshop

January 21, 2021 11:00 – 12:30pm

Larry Stone Santa Clara County Assessor

WEBINAR IS RECORDED

Will be posted to

Assessor's website, along

with PowerPoint



Thank you to our partners!







































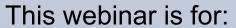






Webinar Purpose

To educate commercial property owners impacted by the Covid-19 recession about potential property tax relief



✓ Owners of <u>commercial</u> and income property, including buildings and land.

This webinar is NOT for:

✓ Tenants like restaurants, or hair and nail salons



Assessor's Objective



 To enroll accurate values, rather than dealing with costly and time-consuming assessment appeals.

 Assessors are not revenue agents. We don't pay attention to when property tax revenue goes up or down.

Property Tax 101

- Assessment or re-assessment is established upon change in ownership, or new construction.
- How do we set assessed value? Fee-simple appraisal to determine market value at time of a transaction or new construction.
- Base year value can be increased by no more than 2% per year. The percentage is determined annually by the CCPI as of January 1 lien date (Prop 13).



• Valuation Date

January 1

June

 Taxpayers notified of Assessed Value Assessment Roll Closed

July 1

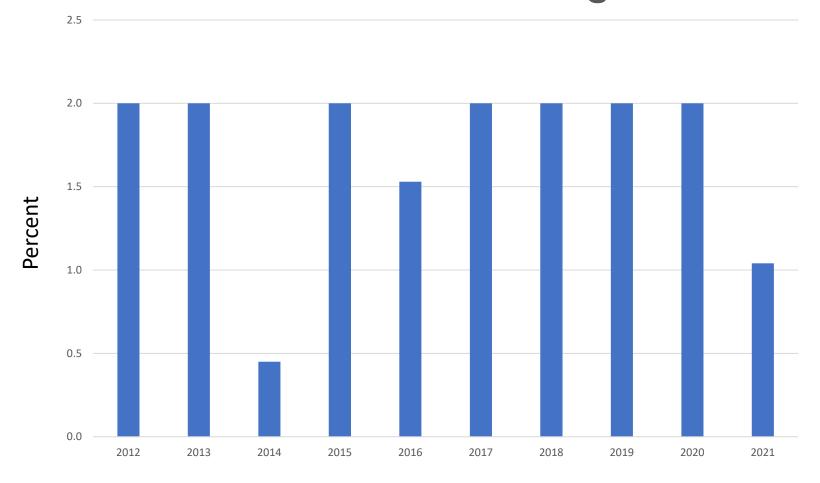
July 2-Sept. 15

 Filing Period to file formal Appeal • Tax Bill Issued

October

California Consumer Price Index (CCPI) 10-yr. History

CCPI Percent Change





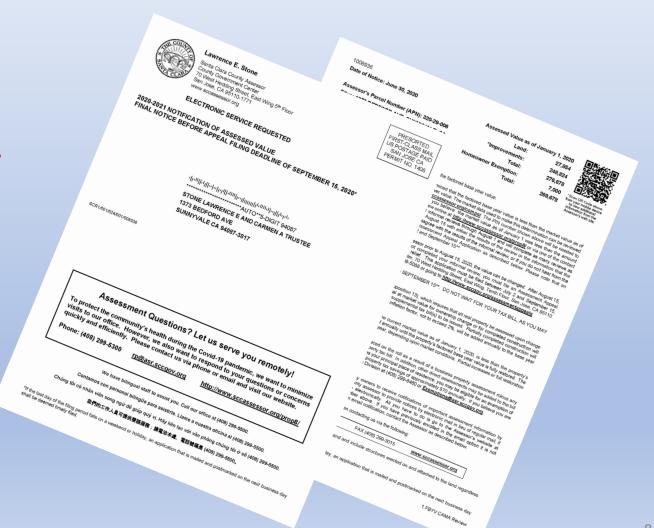


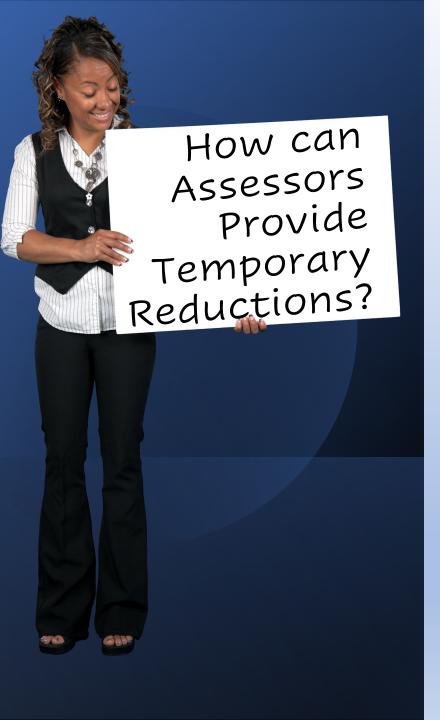
Assessors do not negotiate assessed values.



Notification of Assessed Value

Santa Clara County is one of 10 counties, out of 58, who notify property owners of their assessed value in June, before they receive their October tax bill.





Proposition 8

- Passed by California voters in 1978, Proposition 8 allows a <u>temporary</u> reduction in assessed value when a property suffers a "decline-in-value".
- A "decline-in-value" occurs when the market value of the property, as of January 1 (lien date), is <u>lower</u> than its current assessed value.
- If you have evidence that the market value of your property is <u>lower</u> than the current assessed value, the Assessor wants to know!
- Important: A Prop 8 reduction is a <u>temporary</u> reduction and does not change your base year value.



What happens after the Proposition 8 reduction is granted?



- After a Prop 8 reduction is granted, the property's assessment will be reviewed annually, until the market value exceeds its base year value.
- While a property is being assessed under Prop 8, its value may be raised or lowered by any percentage each January 1. Prop 8 assessments are not restricted by the Prop 13, 2% annual maximum increase.
- However, in no case may a property under Prop 8 review be assessed at an amount greater than its Prop 13 base year value.

Reduction is Temporary

- Reduction is temporary, until the next lien date of January 1
- Annual review
- If there are further reductions, we will enroll the new appraised value
- If the value increases, we will restore the value consistent with the market







Bay Area layoffs hit tech, hotel, restaurant,



BUSINESS > ECONOMY • News

COVID economy: Layoffs jolt tech, hotel, restaurant, retail

Layoffs jolt workers in Bay Area, nearby regions: state filings







ENTERTAINMENT

Movie theater CEO expects up to 25% permanent decline in attendance due to Covid

PUBLISHED WED, DEC 30 2020-1:57 PM EST











- Flix Brewhouse CEO Allan Reagan told CNBC 2022 will be a "more normal year" for the movie theater industry.
- But he said total attendance might be down 15% to 25% "on a r
- "We also need to broaden our entertainment offerings beyond



Dining out: December restaurant sales decline, capping off a year of crisis

Michael O'Connor, Chris Hudgins

Retail & Consumer Products, Banking

Sales at U.S. bars and restaurants eroded even further in December 2020 as the industry ended the year still grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic.

December sales at eateries fell at a double-digit pace year over year, registering a drop for the third month in a row and capping off a year of crisis for the restaurant industry. The National Restaurant Association said that restaurant and foodservice sales for the full year 2020 were \$240 billion lower than expected levels. Sales slumped 21.2% year over year in December, falling at a faster pace than in the previous two months.

REAL ESTATE

Rent prices fall 7.7% in San Jose, but mostly from a drop in demand for luxury rentals



by Lloyd Alaban









How can you help us?



- ✓ To provide reductions, Assessors must determine that the market value has fallen <u>below</u> the existing assessment.
- ✓ We need information and data <u>by</u>

 <u>February 26</u> to complete our

 assessment by the July 1 roll close deadline.
- ✓ File online!

Prop 8 Review Process Market Value as of January 1, 2021

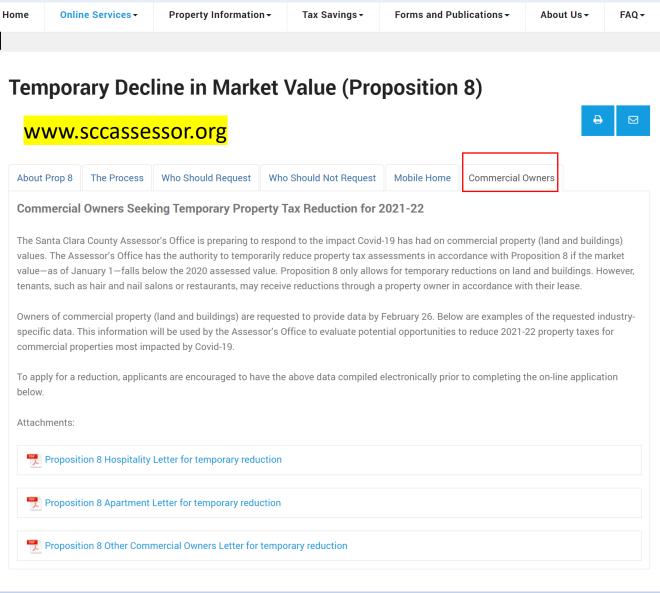
- Proactive Outreach Request for information letters (8,000) posted first week of February (Income & Expense, Rent Roll, Recent Appraisal)
- Substantial workload challenge for the office, we will appraise properties for which we have market data <u>first</u>. We may not be able to complete all proactive reviews.
- This year we will take informal review requests on our website for commercial properties earlier than usual, beginning on February 1. We will continue to take requests through August 1.
- Annual Notification Cards will be sent at the end of June, and final notice of informal review will be sent around August 15.
- Appeals filing period will run from July 2 through September 15.

Prop 8 Request Website – Under Construction!

By February 1, there will be a new tab created for "Commercial Owners" only, a mock-up shown at right.

NEW FUNCTIONALITY:

- Access request for information letter templates
- File a new request for Prop 8 Review
- Attach your market information justifying a reduction
- Receive a receipt letter verifying your request
- Receive a results letter at the end of the informal review



Information needed by Assessor's Office from all Owners:

- \checkmark Opinion of value as of 1/1/21 & information used to form that opinion.
- ✓ Best estimate of prospective income & expense statements for 2021 calendar year.
- ✓ Actual income and expense statements for the 2019 and 2020 calendar years.
- ✓ Description and actual cost of any new construction, completed or in progress, during the 2020 calendar year.
- ✓ Copy of any appraisal performed on the property for <u>any purpose</u> within last two years.
- ✓ Any other information relevant for the proper determination of value.

Hotel/Motel:

- Number of units, average annual room rate (ADR), RevPar, and occupancy rate for three calendar years prior to the date in question along with three calendar years of income and expense statements.
- If Change of ownership in 2020, provide purchase or sales agreement & closing statements including all addendums. Franchise Agreement, Management Agreement, Franchise Inspection Report, and Product Improvement Plan.

Multi-Family:

• Rent rolls for calendar year 2019 and 2020. Must specify: unit size, starting or last renewal date, terms, and rental escalations. Include asking rent for any vacant units and listing price if the property was for sale on or near the 1/1/21 lien date.

Retail/Other:

• Rent rolls for calendar year 2019 and 2020. Must specify: tenant's name, unit size, starting or last renewal date, terms, rental escalations, tenant improvement allowances, and what expenses and interior finish the landlord and tenant were responsible for. Include the asking rent for any vacant space and listing price if the property was for sale on or near the January 1, 2021 lien date.

Q & A

- 1. Can a business owner request waiver or reduced unsecured property tax for the business since the business was temporarily closed for 9 months in 2020 due to COVID-19? We won't be granting waivers, but will be considering assessment reductions of business property due to "inutility" or decreased usage of business property.
- 2. COVID has placed a financial burden on tenants and landlords that, to this point, has not been reflected by Santa Clara County tax officials. Will there be tax deferment or tax forgiveness? In general, there are very limited options for tax deferment, limited to penalty cancellation for property owned by small businesses. However, we will be working to proactively reduce secured property tax assessments to the market value of property as of the lien date. If unsatisfied with the property tax assessment on the notification cards mailed at the end of June, you may file an assessment appeal.
- 3. "Due to moratorium landlords can't evict tenants who can't pay the rent. What's the relief landlords have that are still obligated to pay the ever-increasing property taxes? A temporary property tax reduction, based on the market value of the property as of January 1, 2021 may be enrolled if it is less than the assessed value.
- 4. Also, why the value of the improvement increases as the value of the land? Shouldn't the value of the improvement depreciates year-to-year? Unless there is a temporary decline in value, the base year of both the land and improvements increases by a maximum of 2% annually by law.
- 5. HOW AND WHEN CAN I APPLY Respond to our request for information letters mailed in February. If you don't receive one, go to our website and apply for a review.

Q & A, cont'd

- 6. How do we confirm if market value will fall below 2020 assessment? We will do a review and send you a notice of your assessed value at the end of June. If you feel that the assessed value exceeds the market value of the property, file for an informal review on our website.
- How will new values will be determined? We will do an appraisal of the fee simple market value of the properties as of the lien date, considering factors such as market rent, occupancy, cap rates, and other market value determinants.
- 8. Income for 2019 was down over 60% how will you calculate my assessment? Net operating income is clearly a determinant of market value for commercial property. We will consider the reasons for the decline in NOI, project how long it may be in decline, and perform an appraisal of market value as of the lien date. We may use either a direct capitalization approach or a discounted cash flow analysis, both of which will be considered in an appraisal.
- 9. We are a 501(c)(3) and have not been able to carry out during the pandemic. We have a limited exemption, but can we get an additional reduction in property tax? Questions regarding exemptions should be directed to our Exemptions unit at 408-299-6460, or Exemptions@asr.sccgov.org.
- 10. When will 2021/22 Prop 8 Decline in Value request form be available online? We will be configuring our website to take them by February 1st.

