



The following information is provided by Gus S. Kramer, Contra Costa County Assessor

***For the Benefit of
Contra Costa County Property Owners***

February 5, 2010

Last year, the Contra Costa County Assessor's Office proactively reviewed properties throughout the county to determine if they qualified for a decline in assessed value and decreased taxes. More than 149,000 properties qualified and received lower property tax bills.

We are doing the same thing this year! As your Assessor, I am committed to identifying declines in value without individual owners formally having to *request* a review. We AUTOMATICALLY review your property if you received a value reduction in a prior year and will continue to review other properties that indicate the need for a first-time review.

We will complete this proactive review by June 30, 2010. We will notify qualifying property owners of the drop in their value in writing by July 31, 2010. If you do not hear from us and think you qualify for a decrease in assessed value, you can file for a FREE review. Many companies charge to file for this review, but you can do it FREE through one of these methods:

- Come by our office and fill out the *Request for Value Review* form
- Download the form from our website (www.cccounty.us/assessor)
- Call our Public Service Division at 925/313-7400

Tough economic times require everyone to work harder and smarter including your local government. My staff and I are committed to serving you and all property owners of Contra Costa County as efficiently as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gus S. Kramer".

Gus S. Kramer, Assessor
Contra Costa County