



Vision Government Solutions to Conduct Windsor's Revaluation
Homeowners: Please fill and return incoming data mailer

Vision Government Solutions, Inc. has been hired by the Town of Windsor to begin the 2023 town-wide Revaluation Project. Property revaluation will determine the fair market value of every property in town and equalizes the values of all properties for the purpose of a fair distribution of taxes. The following is a general outline and explanation of each phase of the project over the next nine months.

Vision will be working with the Assessing Department to make the year long process a successful one. There are five major phases to a municipal revaluation: Data Collection, Market Analysis, Valuation, Field Review, and Informal Hearings.

Phase 1: Data Collection [Estimated time frame is March 2023 thru October 2023]

The first phase of the revaluation process is collecting current information on each property that has sold since 10/1/2022, as well as properties which have known physical changes. Data mailers will be mailed to owners of residential properties. By returning the data mailer, residents can help reduce the number of interior and exterior building inspections that data collectors will have to conduct. During this phase the data collector will visit the properties and physically inspect the interior and exterior of each building. The data collector will note the building, size, age and quality of construction, outbuilding improvements, topography, utilities and numerous other characteristics both inside and out. Questions regarding the terms of the recent sale and any changes made to the house since it was purchased will also be asked. To ensure that a home was inspected, the homeowner is asked to sign the data collection form to verify that the inspection took place. The entire process takes approximately 15 minutes.

All Vision Representatives will be wearing an identification badge and will have written documentation from the town stating their affiliation with the project, and their vehicles will be registered with the police department. Homeowners are encouraged to ask for this identification prior to admitting anyone into their homes. If a homeowner has a question as to the identity of a data collector, they may call the police or the Assessors' Office for further confirmation.

Homeowners are reminded that specific questions regarding their current assessment should be directed to the assessor's office. Vision Government Solutions data collectors are not town employees and therefore are not prepared to answer questions concerning current values or town laws.

Phase 2: Market Analysis

A variety of resources are used to analyze the real estate market. While the physical data is being collected by Vision Data Collectors, appraisal personnel will be analyzing recent sales that took place over the last few years to determine which market factors influenced property values. Once all the data is collected and reviewed for accuracy, the appraiser will determine land values throughout the Town.

Phase 3: Valuation

Residential valuation is done using one or more of two recognized methods; Replacement Cost and Market Value Approach. During this phase, sale properties are evaluated and individual characteristics of the buildings are analyzed using information gathered in both phase 1 and 2.

Each property is compared to other properties with similar characteristics. Then the estimated value of the improvements is added to the land value that was previously determined. This value is the final estimate for each parcel of property, building and land.

Phase 4: Field Review

Field Review is the method of checking and re-checking both the values that have been established and the data that has been collected. During this review, properties are viewed in the field by experienced appraisers who double check uniformity and accuracy of information.

Phase 5: Informal Hearings

Once the Field Review is completed and the final analysis completed, a notice with the preliminary new assessed value will be mailed to each property owner. At this time, anyone with questions concerning the revaluation process or about the data collected on their property has an opportunity to meet with a member of Vision's staff to discuss their property.

Residential property owners may go to www.vgsi.com/schedules and follow the instructions to schedule an informal hearing, or call 1-888-844-4300. You are encouraged to do this before December 8th, with a final deadline of December 12th. Hearings, which are by appointment only at town hall, will be scheduled weekdays from December 4th through December 21st. Commercial property owners may schedule an informal hearing by calling 860-285-1816.

After all five phases are completed all data, files, records, etc. used in the revaluation are then turned over to the Windsor Assessor's Office. **The target date for this is December 30, 2023.**

Board of Assessment Appeals

If you are still not satisfied with your valuation, by *February 20, 2024*, you can file an application to meet with the Windsor Board of Assessment Appeals. Those hearings will be held during the month of March, 2024. You will be notified of the date and time of your hearing.

Superior Court Appeal

If after meeting with the Board of Assessment Appeals you are still not satisfied, you can make application to the Superior Court within 60 days from the date of notification of the Board's decision.