

PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Decatur County Board of Commissioners today announces its intention to increase the 2015 property taxes it will levy this year by 23.66 percentage in the City of Bainbridge, 31.13 percentage in the City of Attapulgus, 31.13 percentage in the Town of Brinson, 31.13 percentage in the City of Climax and 36.20 percentage in the unincorporated area of Decatur County as a result of the Service Delivery Strategy Agreement.

Each year, the board of tax assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trend of prices on properties that have recently sold in the county indicate there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the board of tax assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred.

The budget adopted by the Decatur County Board of Commissioners does not require a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate, however, due to the Service Delivery Strategy Agreement there will be a property tax increase. Prior to setting the final millage rate the Decatur County Board of Commissioners desires to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the County Administration Building, 203 W. Broughton Street, Bainbridge, Georgia 39817 on September 8, 2015 at 8:30 AM, and 6:30 PM and on September 22, 2015 at 6:30 PM.