

Dear Property Owner,

It has been almost six years since a revaluation was completed in the Borough of Glen Ridge New Jersey. Real estate taxation law mandates that all real estate be assessed at market value, with equalization among assessments.

Annually, the State of New Jersey Division of Taxation and the Essex County Board of Taxation complete a study of all sales transacted in each community, including the Borough of Glen Ridge, and determine the relationship of assessed value to sale value for each usable sale.

The State and County agencies have determined that the market values of properties in the Borough of Glen Ridge have significantly diverged from their assessed values. The Essex County Board of Taxation has ordered a revaluation of the Borough to be completed and implemented by the 2026 Tax Year.

Some of the major forces responsible for causing inequity in assessments are inflation and neighborhood trends. As a consequence, all properties have not increased in value at the same rate since the last revaluation, hence creating imbalances.

The Borough of Glen Ridge has prepared this brochure to help you understand the revaluation process. In addition, we try to answer some basic questions and clear up common misconceptions.

For further information about the revaluation, please contact Professional Property Appraisers at 1-866-957-1388 or visit their website at [www.ppareval.com](http://www.ppareval.com). Thank you for your cooperation in helping my office complete this revaluation program.

Sincerely,  
George F. Librizzi, CTA, IFAS, SCGRE  
Tax Assessor

### **What is a Revaluation Program?**

A Revaluation Program seeks to spread property taxes equitably within a taxing district, such as the Borough of Glen Ridge, by ensuring that each property is assessed on the basis of its value. Each parcel in the Borough will be inspected on the interior and exterior, if possible, and appraised. The process will establish a market value as of October 1, 2025. The revaluation process is revenue neutral, meaning that it will not raise taxes in the aggregate.

### **What is the definition of Market Value?**

It is the highest cash price, as of a specific date, for which a property should sell after reasonable exposure in a competitive market, assuming that buyer and seller each act prudently, knowledgeably & and in their own self-interest, and that neither party is under undue duress.

### **How will the program work?**

An experienced field representative will inspect each property inside and out. They will note structural and descriptive details of the property and neighborhood. They will take the outside measurements of each dwelling or building to determine its square footage content. This property data will be entered into a computer-assisted mass appraisal program and a preliminary value estimate will be established utilizing the "Real Property Appraisal Manual of New Jersey Assessors". The preliminary value estimate will then be adjusted to a final market value estimate using comparable sales data from that neighborhood or a homogeneous neighborhood, if necessary. Some income-producing commercial properties may be appraised using an income capitalization method.

### **What is meant by a "Comparable Sale"?**

A comparable sale is a property that has a similar location and physical characteristics to the

property being appraised and has sold reasonably close to the appraisal date.

### **When will the program begin and end?**

The program will begin with the receipt of this brochure and introduction letter. All work will be completed by December, 2025 in order to use the new assessments for the 2026 Tax Year. Field inspections will run from March, 2025.

### **What is expected of property owners?**

Equitable assessments depend on the cooperation of the property owners. Interior inspections, especially, require that residents cooperate with the data collectors. The validity of a market value depends on the collection of accurate data. Property owners have a stake in the outcome of the revaluation program.

Any assistance a taxpayer can provide will aid in the total data collection process. If there is information you believe should be considered in the valuation, please inform the data collector. We will make every effort to cause property owners the least possible inconvenience.

### **Will photographs be used?**

The revaluation firm will also take photographs of your property, from a public right-of-way on a different date than the property inspection. You do not need to be present or involved in this phase of the project.

### **Will the field inspector be able to tell me the new assessment?**

The data collectors are not responsible for developing the market value estimate. Their job is to collect pertinent information to be used later to develop the property's value.

## **What will the data collectors look for?**

Data collectors will record such items as the type of interior wall construction, the number of bathrooms, type of heat, central air conditioning, livable area, and the percentage of finished attic and/or basement areas, in-ground pools and number of fireplaces. The exterior inspection includes measurements of each structure, such as garages or other accessory buildings, determination of story height, roof structure, and type of foundation and exterior wall construction. The physical condition of the structure is noted to establish depreciation factors. All factors relative to market value are considered.

Examples of what would not be noted would be interior decorations, fences, window air conditioners, gas grills, lawn furniture, above ground pools, and small sheds.

## **What if I'm not at home?**

If you're not at home when the data collector visits your property, an exterior inspection will be completed and a notice will be left asking you to call for an interior inspection appointment. Appointments can be scheduled on weekdays or evenings, as well as Saturdays, if need be. If the representative is unable to inspect your home or if you refuse entry, the interior information will be estimated, which may cause your home's valuation to be at the highest level for your property type, so your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

## **When will I be advised of the proposed assessment?**

When every property in the Borough of Glen Ridge has been revalued, you will receive a letter. Letters will be mailed in the late fall of 2025. You will be given the opportunity to discuss your assessment and review your property description with a representative of the revaluation firm.

## **Will my assessment increase?**

Individual values may increase or decrease depending on the market value at the time of the revaluation.

## **What I really want to know is what effect will the Revaluation have on my tax bill?**

The Revaluation Process is revenue neutral. In other words, in the aggregate, no additional taxes will be raised for the school, county, or municipality as a result of the completion of this process. The tax bill for an individual property may go up or down depending on how the change in its value has diverged from the average trend. The new assessments will not affect the property owner's tax bill until the 2026 Tax Year.

## **What can a taxpayer do if they are not satisfied with the new assessment?**

If for any reason a taxpayer is not satisfied with their assessed value for any given year, the taxpayer has the right to file a formal appeal with the Essex County Board of Taxation on or before April 1<sup>st</sup> of that year (extended to May 1<sup>st</sup> for the first year after the revaluation)

## **Additional information can be found on the**

**Borough's website:**  
[www.glenridgenj.org](http://www.glenridgenj.org)

***Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in helping complete the revaluation program.***

# **Question & Answer Brochure**



## *For The Borough of Glen Ridge Revaluation Program*

