

12-13-24

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Issue facing some Plumas County property owners who were "in Prop 8 - Decline in Value" due to the Great Recession.

This year our Assessor raised property "Enrolled Value" for ~2000 properties resulting in property tax increases from something like 30% to over 100% - due to calculating that this year's market values having risen sufficiently to take us "out of Prop 8" and putting us back on our Factored Base Year Value, (which has been rising at 2% every year in the background since around 2009). Mine rose 71%. I've attended the last 3 meetings of the PC Board of Supervisors. The issues that have been discussed are: These increases are not ethical and against the intent of Prop 13; Prop 8 doesn't address such massive increases; notification was inadequate due to our BOS voting in 2012 that Assessor could legally provide notice via County website (it took me about 15 minutes to find mine - even knowing that it was there) (the BOS plans to rescind this vote); these increases should have been spread over as many years as it took for values to remain low, or at least over several years. The BOS are talking about deferring the excess increases - is this legal, etc. Can the county make a policy that makes more sense, etc.

I realized my initial property purchase was only able to be sold because of Dixie Fire. I suspect that soon if not already, values will decline again as most of those burned out who wanted to stay, but not rebuild, have already purchased another home.

I realized that these issues are not going away as we face more wildfires and expensive or unattainable insurance. People are not going to want to move here. And that similar issues are or will be faced by many counties in the State.

Please familiarize yourself with these issues and consider taking to the Ca Legislature to consider changes to the code that implements Prop 13 & 8 - RTC (Code); Div. 1; Part 0.5; Chapter 1. Base Year Values [50-53] to consider procedures for such dramatic increases,etc