

Contact: Elbert County PIO
Phone: 720-639-5850
eMail: pio@elbertcounty-co.gov
Web: http://elbertcounty-co.gov
FB: Elbert County Public Information
Twitter: @ElbertCoPIO

215 Comanche St
Kiowa, CO 80117

**ELBERT COUNTY
GOVERNMENT**

Press Release

2017 STATE AUDIT OF ELBERT COUNTY PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

Auditors Confirm County Assessor's Compliance with Constitution and Statute

Kiowa, CO, September 22, 2017: The Elbert County Commissioners have received the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) 2017 County Property Assessment Study. This statewide audit is performed every year to determine whether each county assessor is correctly applying constitutional and statutory provisions, compliance requirements of the SBOE, and the manuals published by the State Property Tax Administrator to arrive at the actual value of each class of property.

The results are extremely positive. In the ten areas audited (Ratio Analysis, Time Trending Verification, Sold/Unsold Analysis, Agricultural Land Study, Sales Verification, Economic Area Review and Evaluation, Natural Resources, Vacant Land, Possessory Interest Properties, and Personal Property), the audit found the county to be in substantial compliance with all standards and no changes to current procedures were recommended.

The audit consisted of a two-part analysis: A procedural analysis and a statistical analysis. The procedural analysis included all classes of property and specifically looked at how the Assessor developed economic areas, confirmed and qualified sales, and developed time adjustments. Statistical analysis was performed on vacant land, residential properties, commercial/industrial properties, agricultural land and personal property. This statistical analysis was then compared with state compliance standards and no concerns were noted.

After reviewing the report, County Assessor Billie Mills, stated, "This audit truly validates the quality of the work done by our employees. I'm very proud of the effort that every member of our office put in to making sure they were doing everything professionally and correctly during the recent biennial re-valuation process."

Elbert County is located approximately 30 miles southeast of Denver and is home to over 26,000 residents. We are a unique mix of suburban bedroom communities and rural agricultural areas. The county provides essential statutory services and supportive infrastructure to our citizens in a professional, respectful, and cost-effective manner while creating a working environment that supports their endeavors, western lifestyle and rights as individuals. We strive to be viewed by our citizens and employees as the best place to live, work, and conduct business in Colorado; led in a responsive, effective, transparent, and professional manner.

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For Immediate Release