

NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENT

240 Old Country Road Mineola, New York 11501

November 20, 2018

Dear Property Owner:

In early 2018, I ordered the first reassessment of properties in Nassau County since 2011 to restore accuracy and fairness to the County's assessment roll. Throughout this process, I have been committed to being open and transparent about our efforts to fix the corrupted assessment roll and clean up the fiscal mess left behind by the Mangano administration. I know that no one likes to pay more taxes. But under the current system, nearly half of the County's taxpayers are paying more than their fair share, in effect subsidizing the other half. That is unfair, and it is costing the County – you the taxpayer – over \$125 million annually in debt payments for refunds based on past tax grievances. This financial nightmare for us and future residents, including our children, must stop.

To ensure full disclosure, the County is providing you with the enclosed Tax Impact Notice. My office used the total taxes levied in 2017-2018 and applied your new Preliminary Tentative Assessment for the 2020-2021 assessment roll to those levies to arrive at your share of hypothetical taxes with and without a **new transitional cap**. Here are a few things you should know:

- In order to avoid anyone experiencing undue hardship, the County will seek the adoption of a
 TAXPAYER PROTECTION PLAN which will result IN ALL CHANGES UP or DOWN being
 transitioned over at least a 5-year period. This will ensure that we fix the unfair and corrupted
 assessment roll without any homeowner bearing an overwhelming financial burden.
- Since the existing assessment roll frozen for 8 years has become so corrupted and inaccurate, virtually every property owner in the County has been paying either more than or less than their fair share. About half of homeowners will see an increase, while half will see a decrease. While your new assessment is now both accurate and fair YOU STILL RETAIN THE RIGHT TO GRIEVE YOUR ASSESSMENT if you disagree with the new assessment. YOUR RIGHTS ARE FULLY PRESERVED. However, property owners shouldn't have to grieve to get their correct assessment. It's our job to get it right.
- While ALL property assessments are now accurate, changes in taxes paid by homeowners
 WILL NOT RESULT IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT COLLECTING ONE MORE DOLLAR OF
 TAX REVENUES. This process was about tax fairness not more tax dollars for government.

For more information regarding the reassessment, please visit <u>askthecountyassessor.com</u>. I look forward to continuing to bring you reassessment updates and other important assessment information.

Sincerely,

Laura Curran
County Executive