

# A GUIDE OF WHAT TO SAY AT YOUR PROPERTY TAX PUBLIC HEARING



## 1. INTRODUCTION

“Good evening, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ . I live in \_\_\_\_\_ and have some real concerns about your proposed property tax increase.”

*first and last name*

*city or county*

## 2. TELL YOUR STORY. BE BRIEF AND POLITE (See examples below)

## 3. CONCLUSION

“I strongly oppose this property tax increases. Please take another look at your budget. Thank you for listening.”

## EXAMPLES – SHARE HOW PROPERTY TAXES IMPACT YOUR LIFE:

- “I have lived here for \_\_\_\_\_ years, and now my property taxes are growing faster than my income. I’m buying less for myself because I have to pay the government more.”
- “Taxes made my monthly mortgage payment go up \$\_\_\_\_\_ a month. Why does the city/county/school need that money more than I do?”
- “I didn’t buy \_\_\_\_\_ because my property tax bill went up.”
- “Please don’t play the blame game. I know the assessor only places a value on my property, but **YOU** create the budget and determine how much my tax bill is.”
- “Inflation destroyed my budget. I had to decide what I could buy and what I couldn’t. The city/county/school needs to do the same.”

See your community’s taxes and spending at [www.itrlocal.org](http://www.itrlocal.org)