

Covington

Area: 086

Residential Revalue for 2016 Assessment Roll



King County

Department of Assessments

Setting values, serving the community, and pursuing excellence

500 Fourth Avenue, ADM-AS 0708

Seattle, WA 98104-2384

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<http://www.kingcounty.gov/assessor/>



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John Wilson
Assessor

Dear Property Owners:

Property assessments are being completed by our team throughout the year and valuation notices are being mailed out as neighborhoods are completed. We value your property at fee simple, reflecting property at its highest and best use and following the requirements of state law (RCW 84.40.030) to appraise property at true and fair value.

We are continuing to work hard to implement your feedback and ensure we provide accurate and timely information to you. This has resulted in significant improvements to our website and online tools for your convenience. The following report summarizes the results of the assessments for this area along with a map located inside the report. It is meant to provide you with information about the process used and basis for property assessments in your area.

Fairness, accuracy and uniform assessments set the foundation for effective government. I am pleased to incorporate your input as we make continuous and ongoing improvements to best serve you. Our goal is to ensure every taxpayer is treated fairly and equitably.

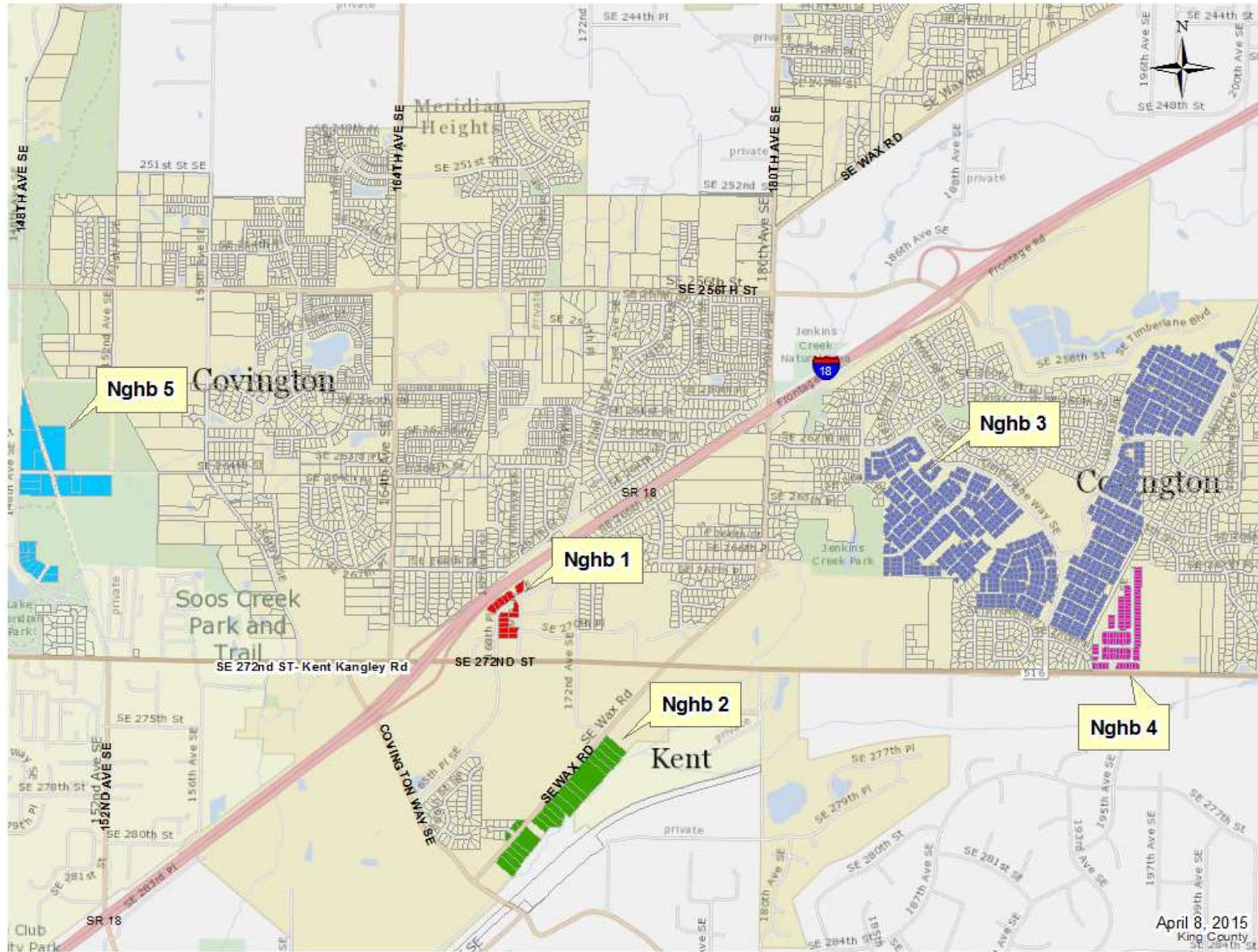
Our office is here to serve you. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you should have questions, comments or concerns about the property assessment process and how it relates to your property.

In Service,

John Wilson
King County Assessor



Area 086 - Neighborhood Map



Area 086 – Housing Profile



Grade 5/ Year Built 1974/ Total Living Area 540



Grade 6/ Year Built 1970/ Total Living Area 980



Grade 7/ Year Built 2013/ Total Living Area 1950



Grade 8/ Year Built 1998/ Total Living Area 2830



Grade 9/ Year Built 1999/ Total Living Area 3870



Grade 10/ Year Built 2008/ Total Living Area 5270

Glossary for Improved Sales

Condition: Relative to Age and Grade

- 1= Poor Many repairs needed. Showing serious deterioration.
- 2= Fair Some repairs needed immediately. Much deferred maintenance.
- 3= Average Depending upon age of improvement; normal amount of upkeep for the age of the home.
- 4= Good Condition above the norm for the age of the home. Indicates extra attention and care has been taken to maintain.
- 5= Very Good Excellent maintenance and updating on home. Not a total renovation.

Residential Building Grades

- Grades 1 - 3 Falls short of minimum building standards. Normally cabin or inferior structure.
- Grade 4 Generally older low quality construction. Does not meet code.
- Grade 5 Lower construction costs and workmanship. Small, simple design.
- Grade 6 Lowest grade currently meeting building codes. Low quality materials, simple designs.
- Grade 7 Average grade of construction and design. Commonly seen in plats and older subdivisions.
- Grade 8 Just above average in construction and design. Usually better materials in both the exterior and interior finishes.
- Grade 9 Better architectural design, with extra exterior and interior design and quality.
- Grade 10 Homes of this quality generally have high quality features. Finish work is better, and more design quality is seen in the floor plans and larger square footage.
- Grade 11 Custom design and higher quality finish work, with added amenities of solid woods, bathroom fixtures and more luxurious options.
- Grade 12 Custom design and excellent builders. All materials are of the highest quality and all conveniences are present.
- Grade 13 Generally custom designed and built. Approaching the Mansion level. Large amount of highest quality cabinet work, wood trim and marble; large entries.

Executive Summary Covington - Area 086 Annual Update

Characteristics Based Market Adjustment for 2016 Assessment Roll

Appraisal Date: 1/1/2016
Previous Physical Inspection: 2015
Number of Improved Sales: 918
Range of Sale Dates: 1/1/2013 – 12/31/2015 Sales were time adjusted to 1/1/2016

Sales - Improved Valuation Change Summary:						
	Land	Improvements	Total	Mean Sale Price	Ratio	COD
2015 Value	\$91,000	\$184,300	\$275,300			5.91%
2016 Value	\$100,200	\$202,800	\$303,000	\$329,100	92.1%	5.72%
\$ Change	+\$9,200	+\$18,500	+\$27,700			
% Change	+10.1%	+10.0%	+10.1%			

Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) is a measure of the uniformity of the predicted assessed values for properties within this geographic area. The 2016 COD of 5.72% is an improvement from the previous COD of 5.91%. The lower the COD, the more uniform are the predicted assessed values. Assessment standards prescribed by the International Association of Assessing Officers identify that the COD in rural or diverse neighborhoods should be no more than 20%. The resulting COD meets or exceeds the industry assessment standards.

Population - Improved Valuation Change Summary:			
	Land	Improvements	Total
2015 Value	\$91,700	\$166,300	\$258,000
2016 Value	\$100,900	\$183,400	\$284,300
\$ Change	+\$9,200	+\$17,100	+\$26,300
% Change	+10.0%	+10.3%	+10.2%

Number of one to three unit residences in the population: 5,675

Summary of Findings: The analysis for this area consisted of a general review of applicable characteristics, such as: grade, age, condition, stories, living area, views, waterfront, lot size, land problems and neighborhoods. The analysis results showed that one neighborhood-based variable needed to be included in the valuation formula in order to improve the uniformity of assessments throughout the area. For instance, Neighborhood 3 (homes in the original Timberlane Estates Development), were generally at lower assessment levels than the rest of the population. This annual update valuation model corrects for these strata differences.

Area Information

Area 086 – Covington

Area 86 is a high density area with an approximate total area of 6 square miles. Although some parcels reside in unincorporated King County, the majority of the parcels are within the City of Covington boundary. The principal arterial is State Route 516, or SE 272nd Street/Kent Kangley Road, also known as the main commercial corridor which runs through on its west-east route from Kent to Maple Valley. The area is comprised of two sub areas, which are physically separated by Highway 18. With its rapid growth since the city's incorporation in August, 1997, the commercial base has expanded to include Kohl's, Costco, Walmart, Fred Meyers, Safeway, Home Depot, and presently under construction, Marshall's.

Area 86 is comprised of 6,096 parcels of which approximately 95% of the parcels are improved. Most parcels are located in plat-type neighborhoods with the remainder 5% as vacant. A small portion of the population are tax lots improved with older to semi new homes with multiple accessories. In addition to its existing established neighborhoods such as Highpointe and Timberlane, Covington has a mix of commercial and residential development with many new residential plats constructed between 2000 and 2015.

Serviced by the Kent school district which is comprised of elementary schools, Cedar Valley, Covington and Crestwood, two middle schools, Cedar Heights and Mattson and two high schools, Kentwood and Kentlake, this area has attracted many growing families. With its close proximity to major Highways such as Highway-18 and SR-169, this area is thriving and enjoys a vibrant sense of community.

Sub 1 has 3,257 parcels of which 3,084 are improved with a traditional stick built structure and 42 parcels are improved with a manufactured home or accessory. This sub area borders the City of Kent to the west with close proximity to Lake Meridian. A large percentage of homes are building grades 7 to 8 built from 1980 through 2015. A small percentage of higher quality, building grades 9 to 10 are located in the HighPointe community.

Sub 2 has 2,839 parcels comprised of building grades 6 to 7 built between 1950's through late 1980's. With its location within immediate access to the commercial corridor and main bus routes, this area has attracted many first time home buyers, renters and rental investors. There are some newer Grade 7 and 8 plat communities such as Addison Landing and Cornerstone on the eastern portion towards Maple Valley.

Area 086 - Model Adjustments 1-3 Unit Residences

2016 Total Value = 2015 Total Value + Overall (+/-) Characteristic Adjustments

Standard Area Adjustment	# Parcels Adjusted	% of Population
+9.55%	4,759	84%

Due to truncating the coefficient values used to develop the percentages and further rounding of the percentages in this table, the results you will obtain are an approximation of adjustment achieved in production.

The percentages listed in the following table are total adjustments, not additive adjustments.

Model Variable	Adj %	# Sales	# in Pop	% Rep
Neighborhood 3 (Timberlane Estates)	+17.85%	121	916	13%

There were no properties that would receive a multiple variable adjustment.

Generally, parcels in Neighborhood 3 were at a lower assessment level than the rest of the population. This model corrects for these strata differences.

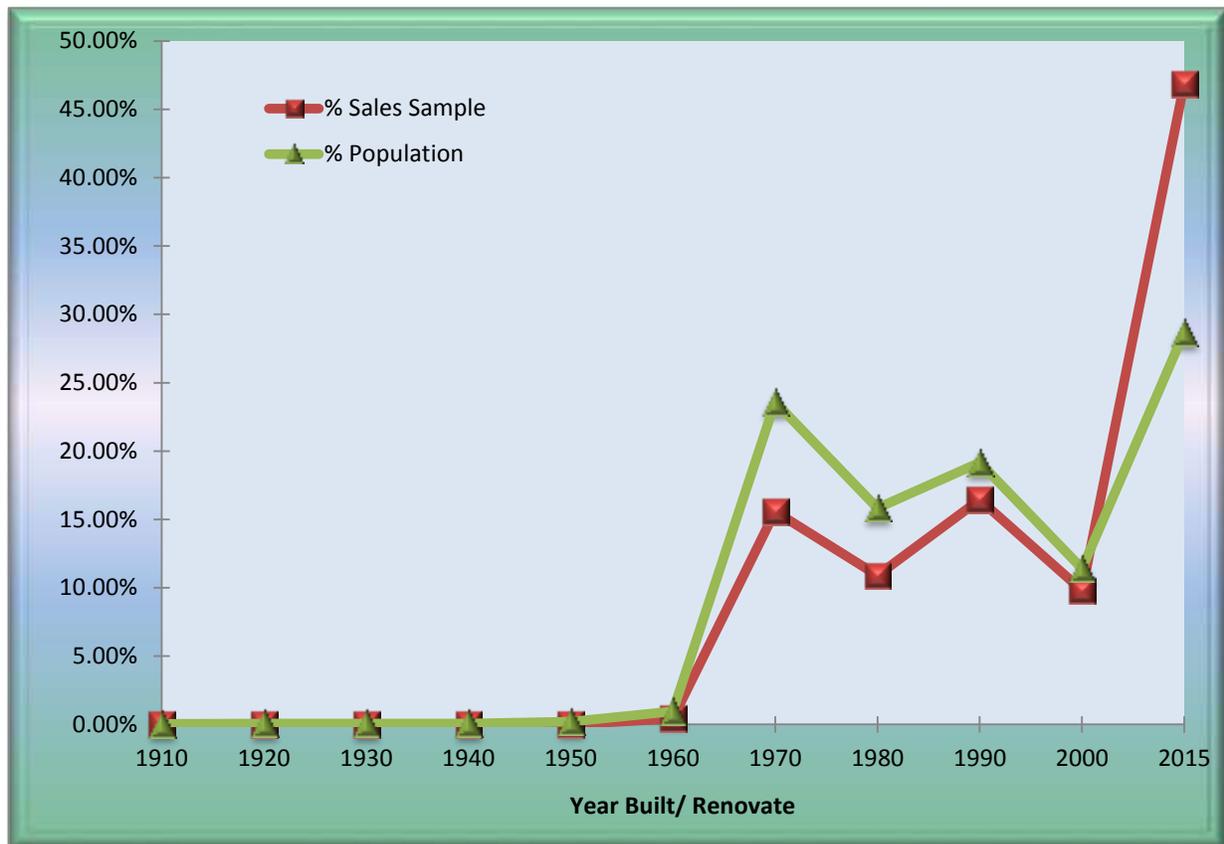
Sales Sample Representation of Population Year Built or Renovated

Sales Sample

Year Built/Ren	Frequency	% Sales Sample
1910	0	0.00%
1920	0	0.00%
1930	0	0.00%
1940	0	0.00%
1950	0	0.00%
1960	4	0.44%
1970	143	15.58%
1980	100	10.89%
1990	151	16.45%
2000	90	9.80%
2015	430	46.84%
	918	

Population

Year Built/Ren	Frequency	% Population
1910	2	0.04%
1920	4	0.07%
1930	3	0.05%
1940	3	0.05%
1950	11	0.19%
1960	54	0.95%
1970	1,339	23.59%
1980	898	15.82%
1990	1,087	19.15%
2000	647	11.40%
2015	1,627	28.67%
	5,675	



Sales of new homes built over the last few years are over represented in this sample.

This is a common occurrence due to the fact that most new homes will sell shortly after completion. This over representation was found to lack statistical significance during the modeling process.

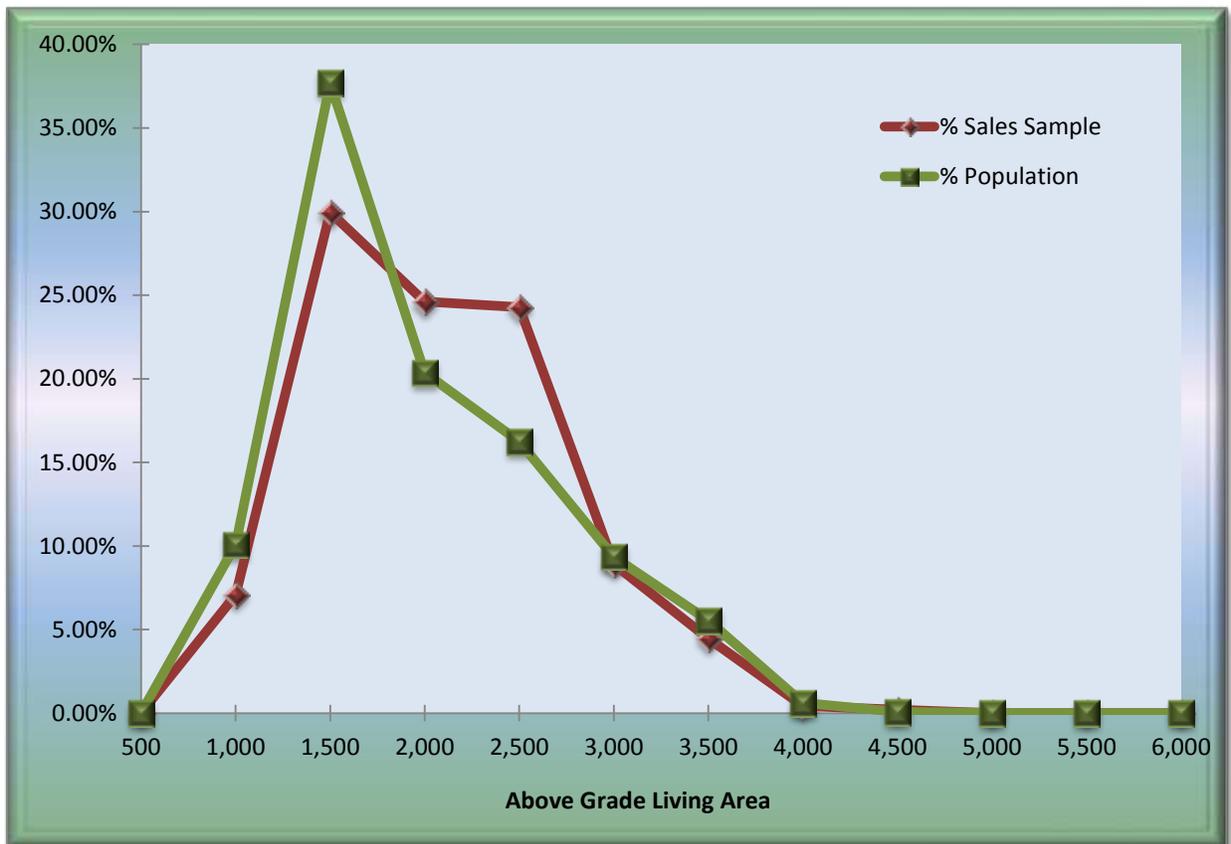
Sales Sample Representation of Population Above Grade Living Area

Sales Sample

AGLA	Frequency	% Sales Sample
500	0	0.00%
1,000	65	7.08%
1,500	275	29.96%
2,000	226	24.62%
2,500	223	24.29%
3,000	82	8.93%
3,500	41	4.47%
4,000	4	0.44%
4,500	2	0.22%
5,000	0	0.00%
5,500	0	0.00%
6,000	0	0.00%
	918	

Population

AGLA	Frequency	% Population
500	0	0.00%
1,000	572	10.08%
1,500	2,139	37.69%
2,000	1,156	20.37%
2,500	922	16.25%
3,000	531	9.36%
3,500	315	5.55%
4,000	35	0.62%
4,500	4	0.07%
5,000	1	0.02%
5,500	0	0.00%
6,000	0	0.00%
	5,675	



The sales sample frequency distribution follows the population distribution fairly closely with regard to Above Grade Living Area (AGLA). This distribution is adequate for both accurate analysis and appraisals.

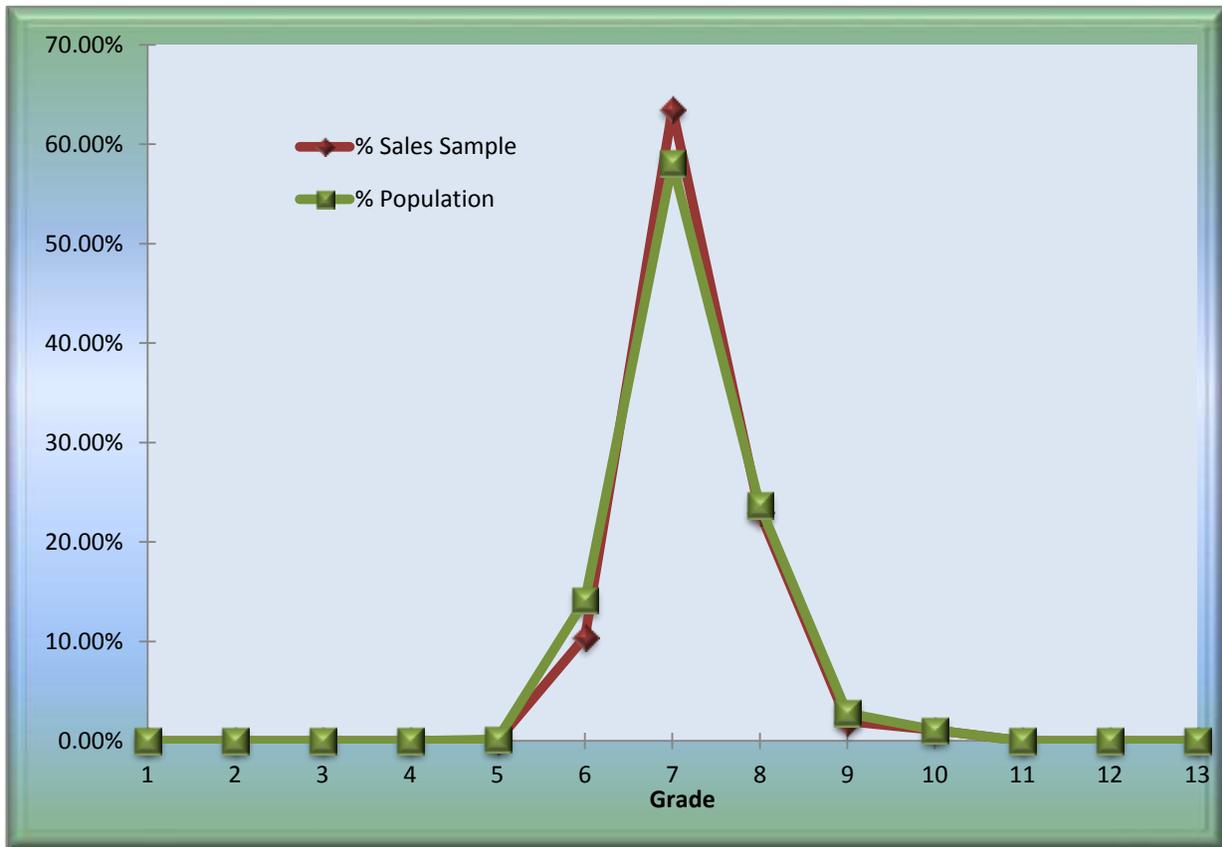
Sales Sample Representation of Population Building Grade

Sales Sample

Grade	Frequency	% Sales Sample
1	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	96	10.46%
7	583	63.51%
8	211	22.98%
9	18	1.96%
10	10	1.09%
11	0	0.00%
12	0	0.00%
13	0	0.00%
	918	

Population

Grade	Frequency	% Population
1	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4	0	0.00%
5	9	0.16%
6	803	14.15%
7	3,298	58.11%
8	1,344	23.68%
9	159	2.80%
10	62	1.09%
11	0	0.00%
12	0	0.00%
13	0	0.00%
	5,675	



The sales sample frequency distribution follows the population distribution very closely with regard to Building Grades. This distribution is ideal for both accurate analysis and appraisals.

Area 086 Market Value Changes Over Time

In a changing market, recognition of a sales trend to adjust a population of sold properties to a common date is required to allow for value differences over time between a range of sales dates and the assessment date. The following chart shows the % time adjustment required for sales to reflect the indicated market value as of the assessment date, **January 1, 2016**.

For example, a sale of \$475,000 which occurred on October 1, 2014 would be adjusted by the time trend factor of 1.145, resulting in an adjusted value of \$543,000 ($\$475,000 * 1.145 = \$543,875$) – truncated to the nearest \$1000.

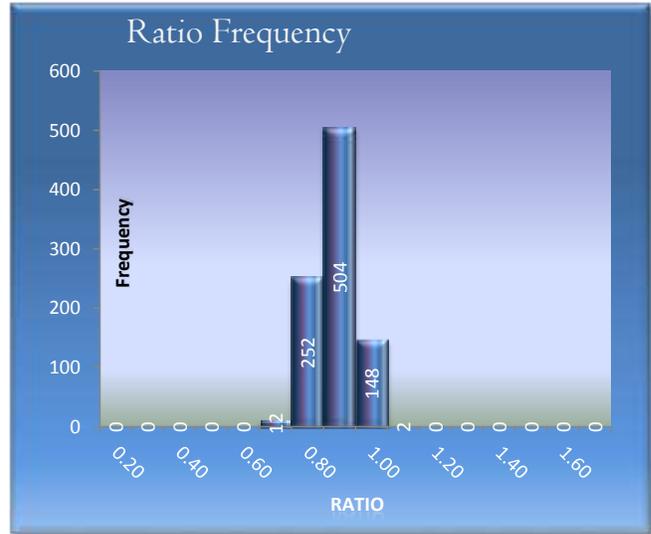
SaleDate	Adjustment (Factor)	Equivalent Percent
1/1/2013	1.347	34.7%
2/1/2013	1.338	33.8%
3/1/2013	1.329	32.9%
4/1/2013	1.319	31.9%
5/1/2013	1.309	30.9%
6/1/2013	1.299	29.9%
7/1/2013	1.290	29.0%
8/1/2013	1.280	28.0%
9/1/2013	1.270	27.0%
10/1/2013	1.261	26.1%
11/1/2013	1.251	25.1%
12/1/2013	1.241	24.1%
1/1/2014	1.232	23.2%
2/1/2014	1.222	22.2%
3/1/2014	1.213	21.3%
4/1/2014	1.203	20.3%
5/1/2014	1.194	19.4%
6/1/2014	1.184	18.4%
7/1/2014	1.174	17.4%
8/1/2014	1.164	16.4%
9/1/2014	1.155	15.5%
10/1/2014	1.145	14.5%
11/1/2014	1.135	13.5%
12/1/2014	1.126	12.6%
1/1/2015	1.116	11.6%
2/1/2015	1.106	10.6%
3/1/2015	1.097	9.7%
4/1/2015	1.087	8.7%
5/1/2015	1.078	7.8%
6/1/2015	1.068	6.8%
7/1/2015	1.058	5.8%
8/1/2015	1.049	4.9%
9/1/2015	1.039	3.9%
10/1/2015	1.029	2.9%
11/1/2015	1.019	1.9%
12/1/2015	1.010	1.0%
1/1/2016	1.000	0.0%

The time adjustment formula for Area 086 is: $(.844396529218138 - 0.0594873890200423 * 0.1318083 - 0.000265410240272448 * \text{SaleDay}) / (.844396529218138 - 0.0594873890200423 * 0.1318083)$
SaleDay = SaleDate - 42370

Annual Update Ratio Study Report (Before) – 2015 Assessments

District: SE / Team: 3	Appr. Date: 1/1/2015	Date of Report: 8/18/2016	Sales Dates: 1/2013 - 12/2015
Area Name: Covington	Appr ID: JMET	Property Type: 1 to 3 Unit Residences	Adjusted for time? YES
Area Number: 086			

SAMPLE STATISTICS	
<i>Sample size (n)</i>	918
<i>Mean Assessed Value</i>	\$275,300
<i>Mean Adj. Sales Price</i>	\$329,100
<i>Standard Deviation AV</i>	\$71,102
<i>Standard Deviation SP</i>	\$82,690
ASSESSMENT LEVEL	
<i>Arithmetic Mean Ratio</i>	0.836
<i>Median Ratio</i>	0.836
<i>Weighted Mean Ratio</i>	0.837
UNIFORMITY	
<i>Lowest ratio</i>	0.628
<i>Highest ratio:</i>	1.012
<i>Coefficient of Dispersion</i>	5.91%
<i>Standard Deviation</i>	0.062
<i>Coefficient of Variation</i>	7.39%
<i>Price Related Differential (PRD)</i>	1.000
RELIABILITY	
95% Confidence: Median	
<i>Lower limit</i>	0.830
<i>Upper limit</i>	0.841
95% Confidence: Mean	
<i>Lower limit</i>	0.832
<i>Upper limit</i>	0.840
SAMPLE SIZE EVALUATION	
<i>N (population size)</i>	5,675
<i>B (acceptable error - in decimal)</i>	0.05
<i>S (estimated from this sample)</i>	0.062
Recommended minimum:	6
<i>Actual sample size:</i>	918
Conclusion:	OK
NORMALITY	
Binomial Test	
<i># ratios below mean:</i>	465
<i># ratios above mean:</i>	453
<i>z:</i>	0.396
Conclusion:	Normal*
<i>*i.e. no evidence of non-normality</i>	



COMMENTS:

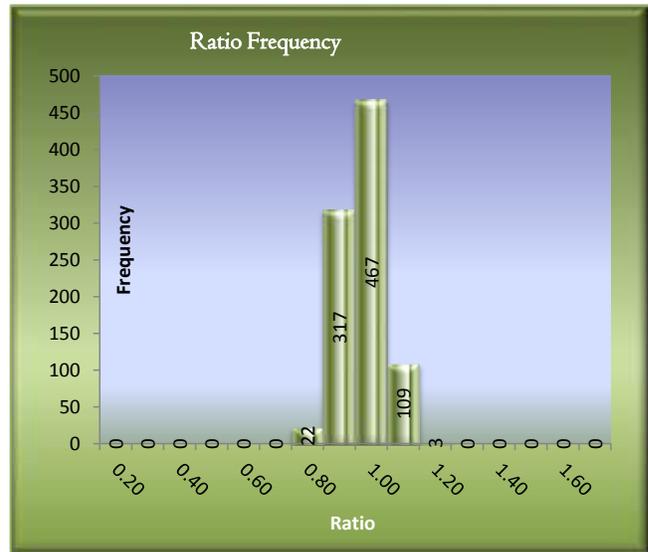
1 to 3 Unit Residences throughout Area 086

Sales Prices are adjusted for time to the Assessment Date of 1/1/2016

Annual Update Ratio Study Report (After) – 2016 Assessments

District: SE / Team: 3	Appr. Date:	Date of Report:	Sales Dates:
Area Name: Covington	1/1/2016	8/18/2016	1/2013 - 12/2015
	Appr. ID:	Property Type:	Adjusted for time?
Area Number: 086	JMET	1 to 3 Unit Residences	YES

SAMPLE STATISTICS	
Sample size (n)	918
Mean Assessed Value	\$303,000
Mean Sales Price	\$329,100
Standard Deviation AV	\$75,439
Standard Deviation SP	\$82,690
ASSESSMENT LEVEL	
Arithmetic Mean Ratio	0.923
Median Ratio	0.921
Weighted Mean Ratio	0.921
UNIFORMITY	
Lowest ratio	0.736
Highest ratio:	1.123
Coefficient of Dispersion	5.72%
Standard Deviation	0.066
Coefficient of Variation	7.11%
Price Related Differential (PRD)	1.003
RELIABILITY	
95% Confidence: Median	
Lower limit	0.915
Upper limit	0.927
95% Confidence: Mean	
Lower limit	0.919
Upper limit	0.928
SAMPLE SIZE EVALUATION	
N (population size)	5,675
B (acceptable error - in decimal)	0.05
S (estimated from this sample)	0.066
Recommended minimum:	7
Actual sample size:	918
Conclusion:	OK
NORMALITY	
Binomial Test	
# ratios below mean:	466
# ratios above mean:	452
z:	0.462
Conclusion:	Normal*
*i.e. no evidence of non-normality	



COMMENTS:

1 to 3 Unit Residences throughout Area 086

Sales Prices are adjusted for time to the Assessment Date of 1/1/2016.

Annual Update Process

Effective Date of Appraisal: January 1, 2016

Date of Appraisal Report: August 18, 2016

Sales Screening for Improved Parcel Analysis

In order to ensure that the Assessor's analysis of sales of improved properties best reflects the market value of the majority of the properties within an area, non-typical properties must be removed so a representative sales sample can be analyzed to determine the new valuation level. The following list illustrates examples of non-typical properties which are removed prior to the beginning of the analysis.

1. Vacant parcels
2. Mobile Home parcels
3. Multi-Parcel or Multi Building parcels
4. New construction where less than a 100% complete house was assessed for 2015
5. Existing residences where the data for 2015 is significantly different than the data for 2016 due to remodeling
6. Parcels with improvement values, but no characteristics
7. Parcels with either land or improvement values of \$25,000 or less posted for the 2015 Assessment Roll
8. Short sales, financial institution re-sales and foreclosure sales verified or appearing to be not at market

(Available sales and additional Area information can be viewed from [sales lists](#), [eSales](#) and [Localscape](#))

Land Update

Based on the 5 usable land sales available in the area, their 2015 Assessment Year assessed values, and supplemented by the value increase in sales of improved parcels, an overall market adjustment was derived. This resulted in an overall +10.0% increase in land assessments in the area for the 2016 Assessment Year. The formula is:

2016 Land Value = 2015 Land Value * 1.1065, with the result truncated to the next \$1,000.

Improved Parcel Update

The analysis for this area consisted of a general review of applicable characteristics, such as: grade, age, condition, stories, living area, views, waterfront, lot size, land problems and neighborhoods. The analysis results showed that one neighborhood-based variable needed to be included in the valuation formula in order to improve the uniformity of assessments throughout the area. For instance, Neighborhood 3 (homes in the original Timberlane Estates Development), were generally at lower assessment levels than the rest of the population. This annual update valuation model corrects for these strata differences.

With the exception of real property mobile home parcels and parcels with "accessory only" improvements, the new recommended values on all improved parcels were based on the analysis of the 918 useable residential sales in the area.

Sales used in the valuation model were time adjusted to January 1, 2016. The chosen adjustment model was developed using multiple regression. An explanatory adjustment table is included in this report.

The derived adjustment formula is:

$$2016 \text{ Total Value} = 2015 \text{ Total Value} * (1 - 0.075) / (.844396529218138 - 0.0594873890200423 * \text{Neighborhood } 3)$$

The resulting total value is truncated to the next \$1,000, *then*:

$$2016 \text{ Improvements Value} = 2016 \text{ Total Value} \text{ minus } 2016 \text{ Land Value}$$

Mobile Home Update

There were an insufficient number of mobile home sales (2) within Area 086; therefore, mobile homes received the Total % Change indicated by the sales sample as reflected on the Executive Summary page of +10.1%. The adjustment formula is:

$$2016 \text{ Total Value} = 2015 \text{ Total Value} * 1.101$$
$$2016 \text{ Improvements Value} = 2016 \text{ Total Value} \text{ minus } 2016 \text{ Land Value}$$

Results

The assessment level target for all areas in King County, including this area, is 0.925. The actual assessment level for this area is 0.921. The standard statistical measures of valuation performance are all within the IAAO recommended range of 0.90 to 1.10.

Application of these recommended values for the 2016 assessment year (taxes payable in 2017) results in an average total change from the 2015 assessments of +10.2%. This increase is due partly to market changes over time and the previous assessment levels.

Note: Additional information may reside in the Assessor's Real Property Database, Assessor's procedures, Revalue Plan, separate studies, and statutes.

Exceptions:

- If multiple houses exist on a parcel, the Total % Change indicated by the sales sample is used to arrive at the new total value (Previous Year Land Value + Previous Year Improvement Value) * 1.101.
- If the site is improved with a house and mobile home, the formula derived from the house is used to arrive at new total value.
- If "accessory improvements only", the Total % Change, as indicated by the sales sample, is used to arrive at a new total value. (Previous Year Land Value + Previous Year Improvement Value) * 1.101.
- If adjusted land value falls < \$1,000, then land value = \$1,000 or previous, whichever is less.
- If adjusted improvement value falls < \$1,000, then improvement value = \$1,000 or previous, whichever is less.
- If land value <= \$10,000 no adjustment is applied.
- If improvements and accessories <= \$10,000 no further adjustment applied.
- If vacant parcel (no improvement value), the land adjustment applies.
- If a parcel is coded "non-perc" (sewer system=3 or 4), there is no change from previous land value.
- If a parcel is coded "unbuildable" = 1, there is no change from previous land value.

- If a parcel is coded water district private restricted, or public restricted, there is no change from previous land value.
 - If an improvement is coded “% net condition” or is in “poor” condition, then there is no change from previous improvement value, only the land adjustment applies.
- Any properties excluded from the annual up-date process are noted in RealProperty.

Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice Compliance

Client and Intended Use of the Appraisal:

This mass appraisal report is intended for use by the public, King County Assessor and other agencies or departments administering or confirming ad valorem property taxes. Use of this report by others for other purposes is not intended by the appraiser. The use of this appraisal, analyses and conclusions is limited to the administration of ad valorem property taxes in accordance with Washington State law. As such it is written in concise form to minimize paperwork. The assessor intends that this report conform to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) requirements for a mass appraisal report as stated in USPAP SR 6-8. To fully understand this report the reader may need to refer to the Assessor's Property Record Files, Assessors Real Property Data Base, separate studies, Assessor's Procedures, Assessor's field maps, Revalue Plan and the statutes.

The purpose of this report is to explain and document the methods, data and analysis used in the revaluation of King County. King County is on a six year physical inspection cycle with annual statistical updates. The revaluation plan is approved by Washington State Department of Revenue. The Revaluation Plan is subject to their periodic review.

Definition and date of value estimate:

Market Value

The basis of all assessments is the true and fair value of property. True and fair value means market value (Spokane etc. R. Company v. Spokane County, 75 Wash. 72 (1913); Mason County Overtaxed, Inc. v. Mason County, 62 Wn. 2d (1963); AGO 57-58, No. 2, 1/8/57; AGO 65-66, No. 65, 12/31/65).

The true and fair value of a property in money for property tax valuation purposes is its "market value" or amount of money a buyer willing but not obligated to buy would pay for it to a seller willing but not obligated to sell. In arriving at a determination of such value, the assessing officer can consider only those factors which can within reason be said to affect the price in negotiations between a willing purchaser and a willing seller, and he must consider all of such factors. (AGO 65,66, No. 65, 12/31/65)

Retrospective market values are reported herein because the date of the report is subsequent to the effective date of valuation. The analysis reflects market conditions that existed on the effective date of appraisal.

Highest and Best Use

RCW 84.40.030

All property shall be valued at one hundred percent of its true and fair value in money and assessed on the same basis unless specifically provided otherwise by law.

An assessment may not be determined by a method that assumes a land usage or highest and best use not permitted, for that property being appraised, under existing zoning or land use planning ordinances or statutes or other government restrictions.

WAC 458-07-030 (3) True and fair value -- Highest and best use.

Unless specifically provided otherwise by statute, all property shall be valued on the basis of its highest and best use for assessment purposes. Highest and best use is the most profitable, likely use to which a property can be put. It is the use which will yield the highest return on the owner's investment. Any reasonable use to which the property may be put may be taken into consideration and if it is peculiarly adapted to some particular use, that fact may be taken into consideration. Uses that are within the realm of possibility, but not reasonably probable of occurrence, shall not be considered in valuing property at its highest and best use.

If a property is particularly adapted to some particular use this fact may be taken into consideration in estimating the highest and best use. (Samish Gun Club v. Skagit County, 118 Wash. 578 (1922))

The present use of the property may constitute its highest and best use. The appraiser shall, however, consider the uses to which similar property similarly located is being put. (Finch v. Grays Harbor County, 121 Wash. 486 (1922))

The fact that the owner of the property chooses to use it for less productive purposes than similar land is being used shall be ignored in the highest and best use estimate. (Samish Gun Club v. Skagit County, 118 Wash. 578 (1922))

Where land has been classified or zoned as to its use, the county assessor may consider this fact, but he shall not be bound to such zoning in exercising his judgment as to the highest and best use of the property. (AGO 63-64, No. 107, 6/6/64)

Date of Value Estimate

RCW 84.36.005

All property now existing, or that is hereafter created or brought into this state, shall be subject to assessment and taxation for state, county, and other taxing district purposes, upon equalized valuations thereof, fixed with reference thereto on the first day of January at twelve o'clock meridian in each year, excepting such as is exempted from taxation by law.

RCW 36.21.080

The county assessor is authorized to place any property that is increased in value due to construction or alteration for which a building permit was issued, or should have been issued, under chapter 19.27, 19.27A, or 19.28 RCW or other laws providing for building permits on the assessment rolls for the purposes of tax levy up to August 31st of each year. The assessed valuation of the property shall be considered as of July 31st of that year.

Reference should be made to the property card or computer file as to when each property was valued. Sales consummating before and after the appraisal date may be used and are analyzed as to their indication of value at the date of valuation. If market conditions have changed then the appraisal will state a logical cutoff date after which no market date is used as an indicator of value.

Property Rights Appraised: Fee Simple

Wash Constitution Article 7 § 1 Taxation:

All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of property within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax and shall be levied and collected for public purposes only. The word "property" as used herein shall mean and include everything, whether tangible or intangible, subject to ownership. All real estate shall constitute one class.

Trimble v. Seattle, 231 U.S. 683, 689, 58 L. Ed. 435, 34 S. Ct. 218 (1914)

...the entire [fee] estate is to be assessed and taxed as a unit...

Folsom v. Spokane County, 111 Wn. 2d 256 (1988)

...the ultimate appraisal should endeavor to arrive at the fair market value of the property as if it were an unencumbered fee...

The Dictionary of Real Estate Appraisal, 3rd Addition, Appraisal Institute.

Absolute ownership unencumbered by any other interest or estate, subject only to the limitations imposed by the governmental powers of taxation, eminent domain, police power, and escheat.

Assumptions and Limiting Conditions:

1. No opinion as to title is rendered. Data on ownership and legal description were obtained from public records. Title is assumed to be marketable and free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, easements and restrictions unless shown on maps or property record files. The property is appraised assuming it to be under responsible ownership and competent management and available for its highest and best use.
2. No engineering survey has been made by the appraiser. Except as specifically stated, data relative to size and area were taken from sources considered reliable, and no encroachment of real property improvements is assumed to exist.
3. No responsibility for hidden defects or conformity to specific governmental requirements, such as fire, building and safety, earthquake, or occupancy codes, can be assumed without provision of specific professional or governmental inspections.
4. Rental areas herein discussed have been calculated in accord with generally accepted industry standards.
5. The projections included in this report are utilized to assist in the valuation process and are based on current market conditions and anticipated short term supply demand factors. Therefore, the projections are subject to changes in future conditions that cannot be accurately predicted by the appraiser and could affect the future income or value projections.
6. The property is assumed uncontaminated unless the owner comes forward to the Assessor and provides other information.
7. The appraiser is not qualified to detect the existence of potentially hazardous material which may or may not be present on or near the property. The existence of such substances may have an effect on the value of the property. No consideration has been given in this analysis to any potential diminution in value should such hazardous materials be found (unless specifically noted). We urge the taxpayer to retain an expert in the field and submit data affecting value to the assessor.
8. No opinion is intended to be expressed for legal matters or that would require specialized investigation or knowledge beyond that ordinarily employed by real estate appraisers, although such matters may be discussed in the report.

9. Maps, plats and exhibits included herein are for illustration only, as an aid in visualizing matters discussed within the report. They should not be considered as surveys or relied upon for any other purpose.
10. The appraisal is the valuation of the fee simple interest. Unless shown on the Assessor's parcel maps, easements adversely affecting property value were not considered.
11. An attempt to segregate personal property from the real estate in this appraisal has been made.
12. Items which are considered to be "typical finish" and generally included in a real property transfer, but are legally considered leasehold improvements are included in the valuation unless otherwise noted.
13. The movable equipment and/or fixtures have not been appraised as part of the real estate. The identifiable permanently fixed equipment has been appraised in accordance with RCW 84.04.090 and WAC 458-12-010.
14. I have considered the effect of value of those anticipated public and private improvements of which I have common knowledge. I can make no special effort to contact the various jurisdictions to determine the extent of their public improvements.
15. Exterior inspections were made of all properties in the physical inspection areas (outlined in the body of the report) however; due to lack of access and time few received interior inspections.

Scope of Work Performed:

Research and analyses performed are identified in the body of the revaluation report. The assessor has no access to title reports and other documents. Because of legal limitations we did not research such items as easements, restrictions, encumbrances, leases, reservations, covenants, contracts, declarations and special assessments. Disclosure of interior home features and, actual income and expenses by property owners is not a requirement by law therefore attempts to obtain and analyze this information are not always successful. The mass appraisal performed must be completed in the time limits indicated in the Revaluation Plan and as budgeted. The scope of work performed and disclosure of research and analyses not performed are identified throughout the body of the report.

Certification:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- The statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct
- The report analyses, opinions, and conclusions are limited only by the reported assumptions and limiting conditions and are my personal, impartial, and unbiased professional analyses, opinions, and conclusions.
- I have no present or prospective interest in the property that is the subject of this report and no personal interest with respect to the parties involved.
- I have no bias with respect to the property that is the subject of this report or to the parties involved.
- My engagement in this assignment was not contingent upon developing or reporting predetermined results.
- My compensation for completing this assignment is not contingent upon the development or reporting of predetermined value or direction in value that favors the cause of the client, the amount of the value opinion, the attainment of a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event directly related to the intended use of this appraisal.
- My analyses, opinions, and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared, in conformity with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.
- The area(s) physically inspected for purposes of this revaluation are outlined in the body of this report.
- The individuals listed below were part of the "appraisal team" and provided significant real property appraisal assistance to the person signing this certification. Any services regarding the subject area performed by the appraiser within the prior three years, as an appraiser or in any other capacity is listed adjacent their name.

None

Any services regarding the subject area performed by me within the prior three years, as an appraiser or in any other capacity is listed below:

To the best of my knowledge the following services were performed by me within the subject area in the last three years:

- Annual Update Model Development and Report Preparation
- Sales Verification

Judith A. Metzger

 Appraiser II

8/22/16

 Date



King County

Department of Assessments

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John Wilson
Assessor

As we start preparations for the 2016 property assessments, it is helpful to remember that the mission and work of the Assessor's Office sets the foundation for efficient and effective government and is vital to ensure adequate funding for services in our communities. Maintaining the public's confidence in our property tax system requires that we build on a track record of fairness, equity, and uniformity in property assessments. Though we face ongoing economic challenges, I challenge each of us to seek out strategies for continuous improvement in our business processes.

Please follow these standards as you perform your tasks.

- Use all appropriate mass appraisal techniques as stated in Washington State Laws, Washington State Administrative Codes, Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP), and accepted International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) standards and practices.
- Work with your supervisor on the development of the annual valuation plan and develop the scope of work for your portion of appraisal work assigned, including physical inspections and statistical updates of properties;
- Where applicable, validate correctness of physical characteristics and sales of all vacant and improved properties.
- Appraise land as if vacant and available for development to its highest and best use. The improvements are to be valued at their contribution to the total in compliance with applicable laws, codes and DOR guidelines. The Jurisdictional Exception is applied in cases where Federal, State or local laws or regulations preclude compliance with USPAP;
- Develop and validate valuation models as delineated by IAAO standards: Standard on Mass Appraisal of Real Property and Standard on Ratio Studies. Apply models uniformly to sold and unsold properties, so that ratio statistics can be accurately inferred to the entire population.
- Time adjust sales to January 1, 2016 in conformance with generally accepted appraisal practices.
- Prepare written reports in compliance with USPAP Standard 6 for Mass Appraisals. The intended users of your appraisals and the written reports include the public, Assessor, the Boards of Equalization and Tax Appeals, and potentially other governmental jurisdictions. The intended use of the appraisals and the written reports is the administration of ad valorem property taxation.

Thank you for your continued hard work on behalf of our office and the taxpayers of King County. Your dedication to accurate and fair assessments is why our office is one of the best in the nation.

John Wilson
King County Assessor