

## PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Houston County Board of Commissioners today announces its intention to increase the 2023 property taxes it will levy this year by 5.46% over the rollback millage rate.

Each year, the Board of Tax Assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the County. When the trend of prices on properties that have been recently sold in the County indicates there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the Board of Tax Assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred. The 2023 rollback rate would be 9.066 mills. The budget adopted by the Houston County Board of Commissioners requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate. The Commissioners have proposed to rollback the current Maintenance and Operation (M&O) millage rate of 9.810 to 9.561. By law, this must be advertised as a property tax increase.

Before the Houston County Board of Commissioners may set a final millage rate, Georgia law requires three public hearings to be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

All concerned citizens are invited to the first of three public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the Houston County Courthouse, 201 Perry Parkway, Perry, Georgia on August 8, 2023 at 9:00 am.

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase are at the Houston County Annex Building, 200 Carl Vinson Parkway, Warner Robins, Georgia on August 15, 2023 at 9:00 am and on August 15, 2023 at 6:00 pm after which the Board will vote to establish the 2023 Digest.