

Attn: TCAD Board, Marya Crigler
12/14/2019

Informal Review Recommendation

My recommendation is for TCAD to create an opportunity for face to face meetings to review information only if appraisers are not able to change appraised values during these face to face meetings.

Moving this ability to change appraised value to a uniform process with multiple layers of oversight outside of a face to face meeting makes for a fairer and more transparent process for all property owners.

In the process I'm recommending:

- Appraisers can assist property owners or their representatives with the protest during these meetings, answering questions and helping to interpret information. This should especially help property owners who are new or unfamiliar with the appraisal process.
- Appraisers should also be able to input notes from the meeting that attach to the online protest with information for reviewers to be considered. Face to face meetings are a valuable part of communication and information sharing and provide a way to make sure and get the right information to a case reviewer.
- Any adjustments of appraised value would be made similar to the current online process, taking place after all information has been reviewed via an offer through the TCAD portal. If that is not satisfactory, the property owner then can request an ARB hearing where they can present their case to an ARB panel that is appointed by a district judge.

Forcing an appraiser to make unilateral valuation changes while in a potentially adversarial face to face meeting creates a system ripe for abuses. Let's have a system that is consistent, transparent and fair to all taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Ryan Steglich
TCAD Board Member
AISD Appointee