



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Mayor

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Media Release

For Immediate Release
April 13, 2015

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Assessor's Database to Get New Photos

HAMDEN- The Hamden Assessor's Office is pleased to announce that work is underway to update to the Assessor's database. Beginning Sunday, April 12, 2015, a contracted company that uses mobile GIS and GPS mapping technology to gather street-level imagery by driving the approximately 240 miles of roadway in town, called Facet Technology, will be taking photos of 19,000 properties in Hamden. The purpose of the photos is to update the current Tax Assessor's database for property revaluation, which happens every five years. Revaluation is a periodic analysis of properties to determine the fair market value. As part of this effort the Town will be updating property records with the new images provided by Facet Technology.

The vehicle used will be a blue Chevy Tahoe with the Facet name and phone numbers listed on it, as well as MN plate 718-KZP. Hours that pictures are taken will be 8AM-5PM and the car will be out every day for the next two weeks on days when there is no rain. The driver will get out of the vehicle to take pictures of properties from the street, but they will not be going onto any private property.

The Town has contracted with Vision Appraisal Technologies to perform the revaluation. Data collection by Vision for the revaluation project is ongoing. Unlike the image collection, the data collection performed by Vision Appraisal involves a physical inspection of all properties that are on the market, have sold over the past two years or have taken out building permits to improve or repair their properties. There will not be a

visit to all properties during this revaluation, only to those mentioned above. The requirement to visit every property is done every other revaluation and was completed during the last revaluation in 2010.

The field inspectors collect information about the property condition, type of basement, number of rooms, baths, type of heat, interior finish components, and anything that is unique to the building. Property owners do not have to allow data collectors inside, but the overall accuracy of the information is enhanced when a property can be inspected inside and out.

Additional information can be found at the assessors section of the town website at www.hamden.com/assessor. The information will be periodically updated during the revaluation process. Any questions can be directed to Chief Tax Assessor, Ross Murray at (203) 287-7128.

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