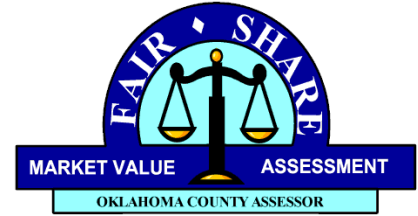


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QR Code Added to Assessor DOCS

“On any mail sent to property owners from our office there now will be a new Quick Response (QR) Code and when scanned by a smart phone will take the property owner directly to the Oklahoma County Assessor’s webpage property information. This is a first for Oklahoma County and we’re unaware of any other assessor’s office in Oklahoma providing this service,” explained Oklahoma County Assessor Larry Stein.

“The QR is the trademark for a type of matrix barcode (or two-dimensional barcode) first designed for the automotive industry in Japan. A barcode is a machine-readable optical label containing information about the item attached, originally a car part. QR’s usually redirects you to a website or application, in this instance the Assessor’s webpage, providing the information about the property,” Stein said.

A QR code consists of black squares arranged in a square grid on a white background and is read by scanning the code with a cell phone using a scanning app.

“The new QR code provides access to property records containing all the information for the property owner receiving the mail including an estimate of market value, taxable value, comparable sales to the subject property and the property tax savings from the exemptions for which the property owners are eligible. Those exemptions to reduce property taxes include the Homestead Exemption, the Additional Homestead Exemption, the Senior Freeze on Assessments and the total exemption from property taxes for 100 Percent Disabled Military Veterans,” Stein explained.

Using a code reader application on your phone is simple to get access to the property information. Before you would have to log on to the Assessor’s website and perform a search, the QR Code is much simpler. In addition to the Assessor’s page there are links to all the other county offices, meeting notices, agendas, video recordings of many meetings and other information that may be more difficult to search for through your current computer browser.

With the more than 350,000 parcels in the entire 720 square miles that make up Oklahoma County worth more than \$7 Billion the Oklahoma County website is the best way to find property information. Many free apps are available. The county search app now works with any iPhone or android and you can get to maps and aerial images and enlarge them with your touch screen, something that was only available on android phones previously,” Stein explained.

“Last year more than 13 million people visited the assessor’s page and we hope with more people using the QR code we can increase those numbers,” Stein said.

Property taxes in Oklahoma are among the lowest in the nation. Depending on the location, Texas property taxes can be more than double Oklahoma's, and New Jersey's property taxes can be more than four times Oklahoma County's for the same value of property. More than 70¢ of every property tax dollar in Oklahoma County goes to support local public schools, colleges and technology centers.

(Editor's Note- Here is a sample QR code for a property owned by a trust. When the QR code is scanned using the QR Reader application the property information will show on the screen of the cell phone or computer that scanned the code.)

