



We are all being affected by the downturn in our nation's and state's economy. I believe that during difficult times such as this, it is especially vital for municipalities to make every effort to reduce the tax burden on our citizens. Several years ago your city council members and I provided direction for a more diverse tax base with emphasis given to more commercial, office and industrial development. Glendale's significant commercial development has provided us with increased revenue allowing us to lower your property taxes numerous times over the years.

Property tax is collected in Arizona based on the assessed value of one's property. These taxes are levied by counties, municipalities, community colleges, school districts and special districts. There are two types of property tax in Arizona, primary and secondary.

The primary property tax levy has state-mandated limits and can be used by cities for any lawful purpose. The primary property tax revenue is included in the general fund. However, because we have minimized our use of the primary property tax levy, it is expected to be only 2% of our anticipated total general fund revenue in FY 2009.

Secondary property tax is a levy that does not have limits established by state law. Secondary property tax can be used only to retire the principal and interest on General Obligation bond debt that is used to pay for the design and construction of public amenities like police and fire stations; flood control facilities; parks, trails and recreation facilities; and library buildings.

The current primary tax rate for the city of Glendale is \$0.2432 and our secondary rate is \$1.3519 for a total property tax rate of \$1.5951 per \$100 assessed valuation in FY 2009. This is a reduction of 2.5 cents from last year and marks the 8th reduction in the past thirteen years. All together Glendale property taxes have been decreased 19.4% from their all-time high of \$1.98 in 1995.

I am particularly proud of the fact that during all of the years of reductions to your property tax we have managed to complete numerous public facilities, including a civic center, library, adult center, fire station, recreation and aquatic center, emergency operations center, water treatment facilities and many more.

Our diverse tax base has allowed us to weather the current economic situation better than many other cities and I will continue to work on your behalf to keep as much of your hard

earned money in your own pockets as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read my "Glendale Bulletins". Please contact me at (623) 930-2260 or mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com, if you have any comments or questions. I strive to provide the most timely information and best possible service to you, the citizens of Glendale. I sincerely appreciate your feedback.

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