

**Edward W. Brown
3 Wedgewood Ln
Voorheesville, NY 12186**

November 20, 2017

Edward Chaszczewski
New York State Department of Taxation
Office of Real Property Tax Services
W A Harriman Campus
Albany, NY 12227

RE: Weatherfield Unfair Equalization Rate

Dear Mr. Chaszczewski,

Thank you for responding to my letter to Governor Cuomo. I understand the process and why it is sometimes necessary. However, I disagree with the need for it this year for the Town of Guilderland residents in Voorheesville School District.

First of all, your property sample was flawed and not representative of the general Guilderland property – it included only 11 properties, 4 of which were among the highest value commercial properties in the town. Contrary to what you said, Guilderland was not consulted on this sample selection.

Second, for Weatherfield homes, it produced very high unrealistic market values for all properties. For example, the market value assigned to my home was \$398,386, using the Town's assessment of \$301,100. Based on recent sales data, I would be lucky to sell my home for \$300,000 and certainly nowhere near \$400,000. Thus based on your equalization rate my assessed value is 133% of market value. This is not an isolated case – the same is true for all Weatherfield homes.

Thus your flawed sample led to flawed results. Garbage in, garbage out. The result was Weatherfield residents paid taxes based on 133% of market value and New Scotland residents paid on 100% market value. Not fair.

The Peter Barber, Town of Guilderland Supervisor, Brian Hunt, Voorheesville School Superintendent, Senator Amedore and Assemblymember Fahy have all written saying your method was flawed and produced unfair results.

I encourage you to take a hard look at the unintended results of your actions and correct them for next year's taxes.

Sincerely,

Edward W. Brown
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