



CITY OF WINTER SPRINGS, FLORIDA

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A MESSAGE TO OUR NEIGHBORS

In the next few days, each property owner in Winter Springs will be receiving their annual *Notice of Proposed Property Taxes* (also known as the “TRIM Notice”) from the Seminole County Property Appraiser’s office. Winter Springs’ residents and taxpayers will notice that the City’s portion of their tax (millage) rate has actually gone down for the coming tax/budget year.

In addition, the City is proud to announce that the prestigious *Money Magazine* has named Winter Springs as one of its “100 Best Places To Live in America” for 2011. The City is #97 nationally and is ranked as the top incorporated community in The Sunshine State.

Winter Springs' residents should be very proud of each achievement since they had a lot to do with both. Your city government, under the leadership of your City Commissioners, Mayor Charles Lacey, and City Manager Kevin Smith, and with the support and dedication of our City staff, assumed the task of controlling expenditures without sacrificing valuable city services.

The City’s scrutiny of each City expenditure, via zero based budgeting and other fiscally conservative measures, resulted in enough savings to pass the lower millage rate on to our residents and taxpayers. Public Safety was not sacrificed in the process (crime decreased 23%), Parks and Recreation didn’t suffer, and the City did not have to dip into its General Fund Reserves to bail out any operating short fall as many other cities have been forced to do.

But, your government’s belt tightening effort would not have been nearly as successful without the support and cooperation of each and every one of you. You have every right to be proud to be a citizen of one of the best places to live in the country. *Money Magazine* may have just discovered it, but we in Winter Springs knew it all along. Thank you for your continued support and most of all... Congratulations!