



**MARK A. BORKOWSKI**  
ALDERMAN, 11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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- Milwaukee Board of Harbor Commissioners
- Steering and Rules Committee

# **We have assessments on steroids**

## **Statement of Alderman Mark Borkowski April 27, 2020**

What the heck is going on in the City of Milwaukee Assessor's Office?

That is the question that I and thousands of other city property owners have today, as over the weekend city property owners received notices of reassessment and a great number of them were crazy high. One assessment in the 11<sup>th</sup> District went up an additional \$185,000! (and the home is now worth \$413,000).

You read that right – up \$185,000!

It begs the question: Why?

Is the Assessor's Office so out of touch that for years, this house was greatly undervalued? And this is a home, not a business!

Given that we are in the midst of a global health pandemic and financial crisis not seen in the U.S. since the Great Depression, I will be asking my colleagues to join me in sponsoring a resolution to freeze all assessments at pre-reassessment levels until further notice. Yes, it will cost the city financially to do this. But we should not add any additional financial or emotional stress to City of Milwaukee taxpayers.

If the City has to tighten its belt or slash programs so be it. It would be unconscionable for the city to raise property assessments at this time.

We need to help Milwaukeeans stay in their homes, not force them out of their homes because they can no longer afford Milwaukee's taxes. That would be far worse for our neighborhoods and city.

These are property assessments on steroids, and it's wholly unacceptable!

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