**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE** 

## AG LAND ASSESSMENT UPDATE

AUGUST 2022
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# PROPERTY TAX ADMINISTRATION MODERNIZATION PROJECT



## BACKGROUND

- South Dakota DOR is responsible for oversight and administration of the state's property tax system to ensure fair and equitable taxation
- Oversight processes include:
  - Valuation certification
  - Levy verification and approval
  - Agricultural land valuation system
  - Centrally-assessed company valuation
- Property Tax Division has 9 team members to manage all processes

### **CHALLENGES**

- Successfully administering all statutory processes required to manage and validate tens of thousands of data points provided by hundreds of local taxing jurisdictions
- Most processes were managed through paper and Microsoft Excel/Access
- With staffing limitations, the focus was on processing data, which left DOR at a major disadvantage when trying to:
  - Provide support and specialized training for county officials and staff
  - Timely respond to legislative and public inquiries
  - Manage new legislation/processes
  - Stay current on trends in the property tax field



# What Did Our Manual Process Look Like?

14

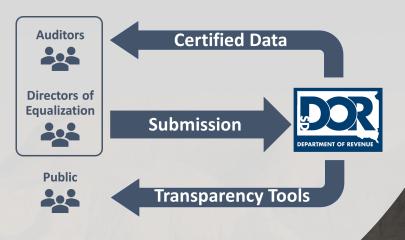
**Different Reports** 

16

County Software Products

2500+

Division Staff-hours Annually



# PROPERTY TAX MODERNIZATION – SD DOR'S VISION

- Web-based solution for the collection, management, and certification of property tax data
  - Collect and store information electronically
  - Automate validation of information
- Statewide database of assessment information
- Comprehensive list of all taxing districts
- Provide public access to data to promote transparency in taxation

## AXIOMATIC

#### WWW.AXIOMNH.COM

- Provide solutions and services to state government for the oversight and administration of property tax systems
- Dedicated to building and supporting the state property tax community through IAAO and FTA
  - IAAO State and Provincial Property Tax Council
  - IAAO Property Tax Policy 2020 Update Taskforce
- Diverse portfolio of active projects with all levels of state and local government
- Geospatial technology services leveraging Esri solutions



# PROPERTY TAX MODERNIZATION – SD DOR'S GOALS

- Standardized filing and approval processes
  - Automatic data validation mitigates the need for manual checks
- More robust data set
- Improved access to information
  - Property tax transparency
  - Tax discovery
- Filing workflows will be managed with automated notifications

Develop an enterprise information system for South Dakota to ensure fair, equitable and transparent property taxation.



Digital Data Streams



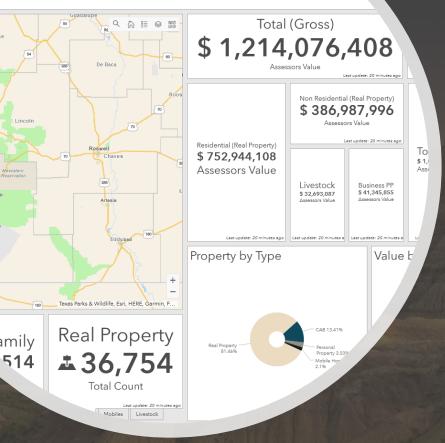
Automated Validation & Workflows



**Analytics** 



**Public Data Transparency** 



## DATA ACCESS AND TRANSPARENCY

- Public access to data is a critical component of a fair and equitable property tax system
- Public data site includes the ability to:
  - Generate reports
  - View and download graphs
  - Download tabular data (in Excel or CSV)
- Statewide assessment database provides for future GIS integration



Project Kickoff

• 1/2021

Valuation Certification Efile

• Released 4/2022

• 65 of 66 counties submitted and approved

Auditors Growth E-file

• 8/2022

Public Transparency Portal

• Phase 1 - 9/2022

• Phase 2 - 12/2022

• Phase 3 - 3/2023

Sales Ratio Portal

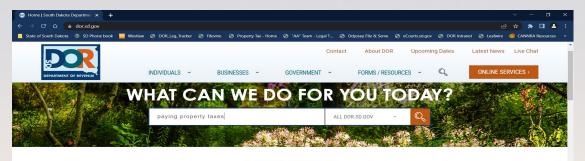
• 10/2022

Levy Verification E-file

• 10/2022

Recapitulation E-file

• 11/2022



## dor.sd.gov

#### ONLINE SERVICES

Use South Dakota Department of Revenue online services for fast, easy and secure completion of DOR transactions.











Live Chat

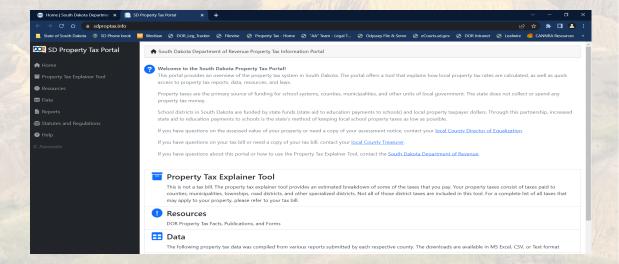
Vehicle Registration & Plates

File & Pay Taxes

Property Tax Transparency Portal

Tax License Application

sdproptax.info



## ADJUSTMENTS & HB 1325

- DOR encourages the county DOE to use all statutory tools available to ensure fair ag land assessments
- For the Productivity Formula to work well, common-sense adjustments are appropriate and necessary to assure fairness in ag land assessments and equity in our property tax system

#### Focus on education and public awareness

- Regional county commissioner meetings
- DOE training and support
- Stakeholder outreach
- Dedicated Education Specialist and former DOEs on staff

#### **HB 1325 Implementation**

- Educating counties on how this new adjustment tool works
- Reviewing all 66 county soil tables to ensure proper classification of every soil type

## 2023 ASSESSMENT YEAR DATA

- Change in Value by County
- Crop Olympic Averages
- Noncrop Olympic Averages
- Commodity Price History

# PRODUCTIVITY UPDATE

2023 ASSESSMENT YEAR

Statewide Change in Average Dollar Per Acre

**CROP** ↓ -0.08%

NONCROP 1+2.99%

## Questions?



South Dakota
Department of Revenue



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South Dakota DOR



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