

Paying for Appraisals of Donated Property (April 2014)

Question: Can a local agency pay for an appraisal when a property owner is interested in donating property for a tax write off?

Answer: Yes, as long as the estimated value of the property is more than the cost of the appraisal, so a Project Funding Estimate or True Cost Estimate will need to be completed with an estimate of value for the proposed parcel for donation before the local agency works with the property owner to complete the donation form. If the property owner wants/needs to get their own appraisal, the appraiser must meet the appraisal qualifications in the LAG/WSDOT ROW Manual, and the owner will need to submit the invoice.