

## **Through mediation, hopefully areas of misunderstanding and agreement becomes evident.**

### **1. Care enough to keep an open mind.**

If a party comes into mediation with the perspective of proving the other party wrong, and showing he or she is correct, the mediation will be less effective and a mediated agreement less likely.

Remember the mediation process is for considering all sides and all information.

### **2. Contemplate what might help.**

When a property is appealed the Assessor should explain how a value was derived and explain why it is believed the individual property is at market value.

The Commission has noticed that mediations are often more successful when the County also brings some information to share.

### **3. Clarify facts.**

Disagreements are often over factual items such as age and square footage. If you have questions on factual items, mediation can help facilitate clarification.

### **4. Consider the range.**

Assessments fall within a range of value.

The mediation process can be used to see if the parties can reach a fair market value that falls within a range of values.