



**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION  
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

APPELLANT: Linda Schatz  
DOCKET NO.: 15-21407.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 12-12-312-056-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Linda Schatz, the appellant, by attorney Stephanie Park, of Park & Longstreet, P.C. in Rolling Meadows; and the Cook County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **A Reduction** in the assessment of the property as established by the **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$3,547  
**IMPR.:** \$13,348  
**TOTAL:** \$16,895

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2015 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject property is improved with a one-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 1,128 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 53 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a one-car detached garage. The property has a 4,300 square foot site and is located in Norridge, Norwood Park Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity and overvaluation as the bases of the appeal. In support of the inequity argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located within the same neighborhood assessment code as the subject property. The comparables consist of one-story dwellings that range in age from 55 to 58 years old. The comparables had features with varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings range

in size from 1,080 to 1,151 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$10,371 to \$12,638 or from \$9.31 to \$11.02 per square foot of living area.

In support of the overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted four comparable sales located within the same neighborhood assessment code as the subject property. The comparables consist of three one-story dwellings and one 1.5-story dwelling that range in age from 58 to 66 years old. The dwellings had features with varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings range in size from 1,092 to 1,146 square feet of living area and are situated on sites that contain from 3,600 to 5,360 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from August 2013 to February 2015 for prices ranging from \$122,000 to \$170,000 or from \$106.46 to \$151.10 per square foot of living area including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the total assessment be reduced to \$12,010.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$19,249. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$192,490 or \$170.65 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the level of assessments for class 2 property of 10% under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$15,702 or \$13.92 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables located in the same neighborhood as the subject property. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings that are 53 and 56 years old. The comparables had varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings contain 1,080 and 1,128 square feet of living area and are situated on sites that contain from 4,300 to 6,054 square feet of land area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$16,872 to \$20,758 or from \$15.62 to \$18.40 per square foot of living area.

The board of review failed to provide any sales data in order to address the appellant's overvaluation argument.

Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In written rebuttal, counsel for the appellant argued the board of review's comparables should be given no weight because they lacked sales data.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The taxpayer contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellant did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted information on a total of eight suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board finds the appellant's comparables and the board of review's comparables are similar when compared to the subject in location, age, dwelling size, exterior construction and features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$9.31 to \$18.40 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$13.92 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the comparables in this record. Based on this record the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not justified.

The appellant also contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c). The Board finds the appellant met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The appellant submitted four suggested comparable sales for the Board consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparable #2 due to its August 2013 sale date, which is less proximate in time to the January 1, 2015 assessment date. The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record to be the appellant's comparables #1, #3 and #4. These comparables sold more proximate in time to the January 1, 2015 sale date and were similar to the subject in location, age, dwelling design, size and features. These comparables sold for prices ranging from \$122,000 to \$170,000 or from \$106.46 to \$151.10 per square foot of living area including land. The subject's assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$192,490 or \$170.65 per square foot of living area including land which falls above the range established by the best sales comparables in this record. Based on this record the Board finds the subject's assessment is not reflective of market value and a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board which is subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code. Pursuant to Section 1910.50(d) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(d)) the proceeding before the Property Tax Appeal Board is terminated when the decision is rendered. The Property Tax Appeal Board does not require any motion or request for reconsideration.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member



Member

DISSENTING: \_\_\_\_\_

CERTIFICATION

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date: May 15, 2018



Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year or years of the same general assessment period, as provided in Sections 9-125 through 9-225, are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for such subsequent year or years directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR OR YEARS. A separate petition and evidence must be filed for each of the remaining years of the general assessment period.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.

PARTIES OF RECORD

AGENCY

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