



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

APPELLANT: Shoab Akhoon  
DOCKET NO.: 17-36171.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 15-10-103-056-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Shoab Akhoon, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC in Chicago; 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:** \$2,310  
**IMPR.:** \$12,320  
**TOTAL:** \$14,630

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 2017 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 consists of a two-story dwelling of frame exterior construction with 1,232 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 113 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement and a 1-car garage. The property has a 3,300 square foot site and is located in Melrose Park, Proviso Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-05 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with class 2-05 dwellings of frame exterior construction that range in size from 1,824 to 2,196 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 109 to 124 years old. Each comparable has a basement, one with finished area and a 1.5-car or a 2-car

garage. One comparable has central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$16,585 to \$20,472 or from \$9.04 to \$9.32 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$11,248 or \$9.13 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal." The assessment information for the subject property differs from the Board of Review Final assessment for the 2017 tax year.<sup>1</sup> The appellant submitted a copy of the final decision of the board of review disclosing the subject property has a total assessment of \$19,406. The appellant reported in the appeal petition that the subject has an improvement assessment of \$17,096 or \$13.88 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 assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with two-story class 2-05 dwellings of frame or stucco exterior construction that range in size from 1,238 to 1,892 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 94 to 121 years old. Each comparable has a basement, one with finished area, one comparable has central air conditioning and a fireplace and two comparables have either a 2-car or a 3-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$12,549 to \$19,939 or from \$9.99 to \$10.56 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted eight equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparables along with board of review comparables #3 and #4 due to substantially larger dwelling sizes when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #1 and #2 which are similar to the subject in location, age, design, dwelling size and most features. These comparables had improvement assessments of \$12,549 and \$12,856 or for \$10.14 and \$9.99 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$17,096 or \$13.88 per square foot of living area falls above the two best comparables in this

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<sup>1</sup> The "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" set forth a total assessment for the subject of \$16,848 compared to the final notice submitted by the taxpayer which totaled \$19,406. The board of review commented, "failure to address 2<sup>nd</sup> imp. actual av 9.99 psft" in their Notes on Appeal with no further explanation or supporting detail. In a 2015 prior year appeal for this same property, the subject was described as having two dwellings located on a single parcel. In this 2017 appeal neither party provided information for a second dwelling unit.

record on an overall basis and a per square foot basis. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the evidence of record demonstrates with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed 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: August 24, 2021



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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