



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

APPELLANT: Maria Tapia
DOCKET NO.: 20-04461.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-05-403-043

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Maria Tapia, the appellant, by James Pollard, Attorney at Law in Lindenhurst; and the Lake County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **No Change** in the assessment of the property as established by the **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$4,303
IMPR.: \$40,546
TOTAL: \$44,849

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2020 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 split-level dwelling of aluminum siding exterior construction with 944 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1999. Features of the home include a lower level with finished area,¹ central air conditioning, and a 440 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 6,120 square foot site and is located in North Chicago, Shields Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with split-level homes of aluminum siding exterior construction with

¹ The parties differ regarding the subject's lower level finish. The Board finds the best evidence of the subject's lower level finish is found in the subject's property record card presented by the board of review, which was not refuted by the appellant in written rebuttal.

1,040 or 1,072 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 1999. Each home is reported to have a basement and central air conditioning. One comparable has a 440 square foot garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$34,939 to \$37,259 or from \$33.54 to \$36.61 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$44,849. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$40,546 or \$42.95 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on two equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with split-level homes of aluminum or vinyl siding exterior construction with 944 or 988 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 2000 or 2004. Each home has a lower level with finished area, central air conditioning, and a 460 or 528 square foot garage. The comparables have improvement assessments of \$40,975 and \$42,667 or \$43.41 and \$43.19 per square foot of living area, respectively. Based on this evidence the board of review requested the subject's improvement assessment be sustained.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant 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 record contains a total of five equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #2, which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size than other comparables in this record and each lack a garage which is a feature of the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparable #3 and the board of review's comparables, which are similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, location, and some features. These most similar comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$37,259 to \$42,667 or from \$35.83 to \$43.41 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$40,546 or \$42.95 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not 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: March 21, 2023



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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COUNTY

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