



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

APPELLANT: Richard Wohn
DOCKET NO.: 21-30593.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 17-06-400-018-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Richard Wohn, the appellant, by attorney Dora Cornelio, of Schmidt Salzman & Moran, Ltd. 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: \$21,000
IMPR.: \$49,918
TOTAL: \$70,918

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 2021 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 3-story, multi-unit apartment building of masonry construction with 4,674 square feet of gross building area which is approximately 126 years old. The subject is built on a concrete slab foundation and features 4 full bathrooms. The property has a 3,000 square foot site and is located in Chicago, West Chicago Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 property¹ under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends inequity in assessment with regard to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on five equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables consist of 3-story, multi-unit, class 2-11 apartment buildings of masonry or frame

¹ Apartment building with 2 to 6 units, any age.

and masonry construction ranging in size from 4,599 to 4,964 square feet of gross building area and ranging in age from 98 to 120 years old. The comparables each have three or four bathrooms and a full basement, two of which are each finished with an apartment. Four comparables each feature a 3.5-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$46,349 to \$50,059 or from \$9.61 to \$10.81 per square foot of gross building area. The appellant also submitted property information sheets for each comparable property printed from the Cook County Assessor's database. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment of \$49,918 or \$10.68 per square foot of gross building area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$90,175. The subject has an improvement assessment of \$69,175 or \$14.80 per square foot of gross building area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables located within $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile or within the same block from the subject and within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables consist of 3-story, multi-unit, class 2-11 apartment buildings of masonry construction ranging in size from 3,828 to 5,195 square feet of gross building area and ranging in age from 120 to 126 years old. The comparables each have three or six full bathrooms and a full basement, two finished with a formal recreation room. One comparable has a half-bath. Two comparables have central air conditioning, and one comparable features a 2-car garage. Comparable #2 is described as being "renovated." The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$57,825 to \$88,834 or from \$14.57 to \$17.10 per square foot of gross building area.

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 a total of nine equity comparables in support of their positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board gave less weight to board of review comparables #2, #3, and #4 based on their significantly differing gross building sizes relative to the subject. Additionally, board of review comparable #2 is described as being "renovated."

The Board finds the best evidence of equity in assessment to be appellant's comparables and board of review comparable #1 which are overall most similar to the subject in gross building area, as well as in location, design/class, and age. However, each of these comparables features a basement, two of which are finished with an apartment, dissimilar to the subject's concrete slab foundation. Additionally, four of the best comparables in the record have a 3.5-car garage, a feature that the subject lacks. Nevertheless, these best comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$46,349 to \$77,068 or from \$9.61 to \$16.43 per square foot of gross

building area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$69,175 or \$14.80 per square foot of gross building area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. However, only one (board of review #1) of the six best comparables in this record has an improvement assessment that is higher than that of the subject, and that comparable is superior in foundation relative to the subject.

After considering adjustments to the best comparables for any differences from the subject, the Board finds the appellant established by clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement is inequitably assessed and, therefore, a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment commensurate with the appellant's request 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 20, 2025



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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