



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

APPELLANT: Catalin Maticiuc  
DOCKET NO.: 21-39072.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 17-07-106-035-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Catalin Maticiuc, the appellant, by attorney Edward Mullen, of Raila & Associates, P.C. 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:** \$17,424  
**IMPR.:** \$74,441  
**TOTAL:** \$91,865

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 2,904 square foot site that is improved with two buildings that are approximately 131 years old.<sup>1</sup> Improvement #1 is a 2-story dwelling of masonry construction with 1,632 square feet of living area that features a slab foundation. Improvement #2 is a 2-story multi-family building of frame and masonry exterior construction with 2,268 square feet of building area that features a crawl space foundation. The property is located in Chicago, West Chicago Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as both a class 2-05 and a 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity regarding Improvement #1 as the basis of the appeal. The appellant did not challenge the subject's land assessment or Improvement #2's assessment.

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<sup>1</sup> The Board finds the best description of the subject property is found in the appellant's evidence as the board of review presented a different PIN as the subject property in its grid analysis.

In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story, class 2-05 homes of masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,939 to 2,634 square feet of living area. Three dwellings range in age from 120 to 133 years old. Three comparables each have a basement with finished area and a 2-car garage. One home has a slab foundation and one home has central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$48,432 to \$57,040 or from \$21.42 to \$27.68 per square foot of living area.

The appellant submitted printouts describing the subject's improvements and reporting Improvement #1 has an improvement assessment of \$61,000 or \$37.38 per square foot of living area and Improvement #2 has an improvement assessment of \$33,576.

Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in Improvement #1's assessment to \$40,865 or \$25.04 per square foot of living area for a total reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$74,441.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$112,000. The subject property has a total improvement assessment of \$94,576 for both Improvement #1 and Improvement #2.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables<sup>2</sup> located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story or 3-story homes of frame or masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,314 to 3,344 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 110 to 153 years old. Each comparable has a basement, one of which has finished area, and a 1-car or a 2-car garage. Two comparables have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$42,277 to \$63,400 or from \$17.20 to \$22.13 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

### **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 record contains a total of eight equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #1 and the board of review's comparables, due to substantial differences from Improvement #1 in dwelling size.

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<sup>2</sup> The Board notes the board of review utilized a different property as the subject property in its grid analysis.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables #2, #3, and #4, which are more similar to Improvement #1 in dwelling size, age, location, and some features, although these comparables each have a basement and a garage unlike Improvement #1 and one comparable has central air conditioning unlike Improvement #1, suggesting downward adjustments to these comparables would be needed to make them more equivalent to Improvement #1. These comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$48,432 to \$57,040 or from \$24.99 to \$27.68 per square foot of living area. Improvement #1's assessment of \$61,000 or \$37.38 per square foot of living area falls above 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 from Improvement #1, the Board finds the appellant demonstrated with clear and convincing evidence that Improvement #1 was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's 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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