



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

APPELLANT: Julie Lam
DOCKET NO.: 21-49032.001-C-1
PARCEL NO.: 17-21-431-020-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Julie Lam, the appellant(s), by attorney Paul K. Lee, of The Law Office of Paul K. Lee 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: \$18,750
IMPR.: \$51,250
TOTAL: \$70,000

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant 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 1,498-square-foot parcel of land improved with a 27-year-old two-story building containing a commercial space. The improvement is of masonry construction containing 2,860 square feet of building area. The property is located in Chicago, South Chicago Township, Cook County, and is classified as a class 5-97 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends that overvaluation is the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$280,000 as of January 1, 2021.

The appellant contends that overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted an appraisal which estimated the subject's market value as of January 1, 2021, at \$280,000. The appraisal indicated the subject was inspected. The appraiser utilized the

income and sales comparison approaches to value to estimate the subject's market value. The appraiser opined that the highest and best use of the property as improved is its current use.

The subject property is located along the south side of South China Place, just west of South Clark Street along a major thoroughfare inside a shopping center. The location lacks immediate visibility to major-traffic thoroughfares; improvements are a mix of commercial and residential improvements. The subject site is approximately 0.6 miles west of the Cermak-McCormick Place Metra Station within the Chinatown Square outdoor mall. The Ping Tom Memorial Park is approximately 0.2 miles to the north. The I-90 express is 1-mile to the east, and the Stevenson Expressway (1-55) is 0.5-miles to the south. Commercial properties dominate arterial streets to the west and south. Other commercial improvements in the immediate area along South Archer include; Strings Ramen Shop to the south, Ken Kee Restaurant Hong Kong to the northeast. Lakeside Bank to the southwest, past West Cermak. The rear end of the subject site abuts a multi-unit apartment complex. Overall, this is a medium- to high-density area with a modest commercial draw. The common address of the subject is 2125 South China Place, Chicago, Illinois 60616, Cook County, Illinois, and Armour Square is approximately 2 miles south of the downtown Chicago Business District known as the "Loop" in Cook County, Illinois.

Under the income approach, the appraiser analyzed five comparable industrial offerings to arrive at a rental rate for the owner-occupied commercial space of \$17.00 per square foot on the net basis for the improvement. These figures lead to a potential gross income of \$48,620. The subject has a rentable area of 2,860 SF. The appraiser applied a vacancy and collection rate of 10.00% for the commercial space to arrive at an effective gross income of \$63,300. The total stabilized expense amount of \$13,100, resulting in a net operating income of \$30,659, or 70.06%.

In determining a capitalization rate (cap rate), the appraiser reviewed surveys and utilized the direct capitalization and band of investment methods to estimate a cap rate of 9.00%. This rate was loaded at 5.57%, with a loaded cap rate of 9.81%, resulting in a subject value under the income approach of \$320,000 (rounded), or \$112.17 per square foot.

Under the sales comparison approach, the appraiser analyzed ten sales to arrive at the estimate of value. They sold for prices ranging from \$280,000 to \$850,000 or from \$60.31 to \$139.58 per unit. The appraiser analyzed several improved sales, all of which were found to be comparable. Based on the aforementioned data, the appraiser found that two of the five comparables analyzed were superior to the subject and warranted downward adjustments. Comparable two, three, and five were inferior and warranted upward adjustments. Comparable two is the highest of the inferior sales at \$90.32 per square foot. Comparable four is the lowest of the superior comparables at \$136.98 per square foot. Therefore, comparables two and four bracket the subject and considering the level of space that is warehouse in nature, the appraiser found the subject would fall to the lower portion of this tighter range. The appraiser gave equal weight to the income capitalization and sales approach to value. The appraiser's final opinion of value is \$270,000.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal," disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$126,399. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of

\$107,649, including land, when applying the 2021 level of assessment for class 5 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 25%.

The board of review did not submit any additional notes on appeal.

At the hearing, the appellant argued that the appraisal submitted to the appellant was the best evidence of market value. The board of review rested on the evidence.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant 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 Board finds that the best evidence of market value is the appraisal submitted by the appellant for \$280,000. The subject's assessment reflects the market value above the best evidence of market value in the record. The Board finds the subject property had a taxable assessed value of \$70,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established, the 2021 level of assessment for class 5 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 25% shall apply. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(c)(2)).

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: _____

September 15, 2026



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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