



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

APPELLANT: Lorena Soto  
DOCKET NO.: 22-21919.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 06-20-202-013-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lorena Soto, 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 **No Change** 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:** \$19,000  
**IMPR.:** \$19,000  
**TOTAL:** \$38,000

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 2022 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 one-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 1,578 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 73 years old. Features of the home include a full basement with finished area, a fireplace, and a two-car garage. The property has a 190,575 square foot site and is located in Elgin, Hanover Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 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 five equity

comparables, which are located in a different assessment neighborhood than the subject.<sup>1</sup> The comparables consist of one-story class 2-03 dwellings of frame, masonry, or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,014 to 1,782 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 64 to 69 years old. Two dwellings have central air conditioning and two comparables each have a fireplace. Three comparables each have a basement and one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. Each comparable has a garage ranging in size from one-car to two-cars. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$5,550 to \$9,806 or from \$5.41 to \$5.50 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$8,631 or \$5.47 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$38,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$19,000 or \$12.04 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 within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of one-story class 2-03 dwellings of frame, masonry, or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,391 to 1,644 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 60 to 68 years old. Each dwelling has one or two fireplaces and a one-car or two-car garage. Two comparables have central air conditioning, three comparables each have a basement, and one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$21,161 to \$26,094 or from \$15.06 to \$16.40 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted a total of nine equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to the comparables submitted by the appellant, which differ from the subject in location, dwelling size, and/or foundation. The Board also gives less weight to board of review comparable #4, which has a concrete slab foundation in contrast to the subject's basement foundation.

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<sup>1</sup> Despite having different PINs, comparables #4 and #5 are reported to have the same address. These comparables also have identical building characteristics and improvement assessments, suggesting that this is a multi-parcel property.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #1, #2, and #3, which are similar to the subject in age, location, dwelling size, and some features. These comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$22,627 to \$26,094 or from \$15.06 to \$16.40 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$19,000 or \$12.04 per square foot of living area falls below the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record 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.

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Chairman

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Member

Member

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Member

Member

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Member

Member

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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: July 15, 2025

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Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

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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