



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

APPELLANT: William R.T. Smith Sr.
DOCKET NO.: 22-23654.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-20-205-002-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are William R.T. Smith Sr., 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: \$25,712
IMPR.: \$78,152
TOTAL: \$103,864

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 2-story dwelling of frame exterior construction with 3,201 square feet of living area.¹ The home is approximately 57 years old. Features include a crawl space foundation, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 2-car garage. The property has a 9,350 square foot site and is located in Winnetka, New Trier Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-78 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. The Board finds the appellant submitted information in the grid analysis on a property purported to be the subject but the property has a different property index number, is located at a

¹ The best description of the subject property was found in the evidence presented by the board of review, which was unrefuted by the appellant.

different address than the subject property, and has a different neighborhood code than the property described by the board of review. Therefore, the Board will not consider the evidence submitted by the appellant in this decision. Based on the evidence submitted, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$103,864. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$78,152 or \$24.41 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 code and either ¼ of a mile from the subject or within the subject's subarea. The comparables are improved with 2-story, class 2-78 dwellings of frame or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,274 to 3,405 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 50 to 61 years old. The comparables each have a full or partial basement, two of which have finished area. Three comparables each have central air conditioning. Each comparable has one fireplace and a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$83,132 to \$99,937 or from \$24.41 to \$42.35 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested that the subject's assessment be confirmed.

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 board of review submitted four suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to board of review comparables #3 and #4 due to substantial differences from the subject in dwelling size.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #1 and #2 which are more similar to the subject in design/class, age, and dwelling size with varying degrees of similarity in foundation type, central air conditioning, and other features. These comparables have improvement assessments of \$83,132 and \$99,937 or \$24.41 and \$35.05 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$78,152 or \$24.41 per square foot of living area falls below the two best comparables in this record on an overall improvement assessment basis and matches board of review comparable #2 on a per square foot basis. Based on this limited record and after considering the necessary adjustments to the two best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate 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: October 21, 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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