



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

APPELLANT: Susan and Scott Sims
DOCKET NO.: 22-24069.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-34-107-042-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Susan and Scott Sims, the appellants, 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: \$8,998
IMPR.: \$66,000
TOTAL: \$74,998

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellants 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 townhouse of masonry exterior construction with 1,888 square feet of living area. The townhome is approximately 23 years old. Features include a basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 2-car garage. The property has a 4,124 square foot site and is located in Wilmette, New Trier Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-95 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellants contend assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellants submitted information on five equity comparables located within the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story, class 2-95 townhomes of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,341 to 2,826 square feet of living area. The comparables range in age from 22 to 62 years old. Each comparable has a basement, central air conditioning,

and a 1-car or a 2-car garage. One comparable has one fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$35,000 to \$64,500 or from \$22.82 to \$26.10 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellants 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 \$74,998. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$66,000 or \$34.96 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 same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story, class 2-95 townhomes of frame or masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,804 to 2,336 square feet of living area. The comparables are either 3 or 23 years old. Each comparable has a basement, central air conditioning, and a 2-car garage. One comparable has one fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments of either \$73,000 or \$85,000 or ranging from \$36.39 to \$40.47 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the assessment be confirmed.

Conclusion of Law

The appellants contend 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 appellants did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted nine suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives reduced weight to the appellants' comparables and board of review comparable #1 which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size than other comparables in this record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #2, #3, and #4, which are similar to the subject in design/class and dwelling size with varying degrees of similarity in age and other features. These three comparables have improvement assessments of \$73,000 and of either \$40.22 or \$40.47 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$66,000 or \$34.96 per square foot of living area falls below the three best comparables in this record. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the appellants 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.



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: _____

January 20, 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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