



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

APPELLANT: Stephanie Buchanan
DOCKET NO.: 22-50482.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-10-306-006-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Stephanie Buchanan, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC in Northbrook; 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: \$11,880
IMPR.: \$18,294
TOTAL: \$30,174

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 frame exterior construction with 1,388 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 62 years old. The home features a crawl space foundation, central air conditioning, 1½ bathrooms and a 1-car garage. The property has a 7,425 square foot site and is located in Northbrook, Northfield 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 four equity comparables that have the same assessment neighborhood code and property classification code as the subject. The comparables are located either .3 or .4 of a mile from the subject property, two of which are also along the same street as the subject. The comparables are improved with

one-story dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 1,180 to 1,395 square feet of living area. The dwellings are from 68 to 74 years old. Two comparables each have a concrete slab foundation and two comparables each have a partial basement. The appellant indicated in the grid analysis that the finished basement area is "N/A." Each comparable has central air conditioning, 1 bathroom and a 1-car or a 1½-car garage. Two comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$14,023 to \$18,823 or from \$11.88 to \$14.45 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$18,294 or \$13.18 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 \$37,999. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$26,119 or \$18.82 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparables that have the same assessment neighborhood code and property classification code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 1-story or 1.5-story dwellings of frame, masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,004 to 1,629 square feet of living area. The dwellings are from 67 to 74 years old. One comparable has a concrete slab foundation and three comparables each have a full or partial basement, one of which has finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, either 1, 1½ or 2 bathrooms, and a 1-car, a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$21,112 to \$36,755 or from \$21.03 to \$24.80 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 parties submitted eight comparable properties for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables #3 and #4, along with the four comparables submitted by the board of review which have basement foundations, unlike the subject and/or differ from the subject in dwelling size. Additionally, board of review comparables #3 and #4 are dissimilar 1.5-story designs when compared to the subject's 1-story design.

The Board finds the appellant's comparables #1 and #2 are similar to the subject in location and overall, more similar to the subject in dwelling size, design and age. The comparables have improvement assessments of \$14,023 and \$18,148 or \$11.88 and \$13.01 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$26,119 or \$18.82 per square foot

of living area is greater than the most similar comparables in the record both in terms of total improvement assessment and on a per square foot of living area basis. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is excessive. Therefore, based on this record the Board finds a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment commensurate with the appellant's request is warranted.

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: _____

November 25, 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

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