



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

APPELLANT: Paul Behrens
DOCKET NO.: 23-49435.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 03-31-100-028-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Paul Behrens, the appellant, by Eric Feldman, attorney-at-law of Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C. 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: \$6,984
IMPR.: \$32,584
TOTAL: \$39,568

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 2023 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 site with 8,730 square feet of land area improved with a two-story dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction that contains 1,976 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 60 years old. Features of the property include an unfinished partial basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, 2½ bathrooms and a 2-car garage. The property is in Arlington Heights, Wheeling Township, Cook County. The subject is a class 2-07 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends inequity regarding the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on five equity comparables composed of class 2-05 properties improved with two-story dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction that range in size from 1,784 to 2,055 square feet of living area.

The homes are 64 or 66 years old. Each property has a partial basement with four having a formal recreation room, central air conditioning, and a 1-car or 2-car garage. The comparables have 1½, 2 or 2½ bathrooms. One comparable has a fireplace. The comparables have the same neighborhood code as the subject and are located from .12 to .33 of a mile from the subject property. These properties have improvement assessments that range from \$28,915 to \$34,363 or from \$15.83 to \$16.72 per square foot of living area. The appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$32,209.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$45,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$38,016 or \$19.24 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables composed of class 2-07 properties improved with two-story dwellings of frame or frame and masonry exterior construction that range in size from 1,720 to 1,995 square feet of living area and are 1 to 58 years old. Each property has a partial or full basement with one having finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace, 2½ or 3½ bathrooms, and a 2-car garage. Each comparable has a different neighborhood code than the subject property. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$37,160 to \$61,920 or from \$19.53 to \$36.00 per square foot of living area.

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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted information on eight equity comparables to support their respective positions. The Board gives less weight to the comparables submitted by the board of review due to differences from the subject in location and/or age. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the comparables submitted by the appellant that are more similar to the subject in location and age than are the comparables submitted by the board of review. The appellant's comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$28,915 to \$34,363 or from \$15.83 to \$16.72 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$38,016 or \$19.24 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record the Board finds the appellant demonstrated with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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: June 16, 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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