



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

APPELLANT: Sophia Domnenko
DOCKET NO.: 24-01766.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-26-400-019

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Sophia Domnenko, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC in Northbrook; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$88,274
IMPR.: \$81,956
TOTAL: \$170,230

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2024 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 split-level dwelling of brick and frame exterior construction with 1,354 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1963 and is approximately 61 years old. Features of the home include a 2,368 square foot basement/lower level with 2,202 square feet of finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace, an attached garage with 684 square feet of building area and a detached garage with 970 square feet of building area. The property has a site with approximately 84,506 square feet of land area and is located in Riverwoods, Vernon Township, Lake County.

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 suggested equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property and from .86 of a mile to 1.59 miles from the subject property. The comparables are improved with split-level dwellings of brick or frame exterior construction that range in size from 1,400 to 1,480 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 59 to 67 years old. Each comparable has a

basement/lower level with an undisclosed size and finished area ranging in size from 432 to 1,356 square feet, central air conditioning and a garage ranging in size from 506 to 1,420 square feet of building area. Three comparables each have one fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$56,719 to \$73,621 or from \$39.89 to \$52.59 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$59,609 or \$44.02 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 \$170,230. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$81,956 or \$60.53 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three suggested equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood as the subject and from .91 of a mile to 1.86 miles from the subject property. The comparables are improved with split-level dwellings of frame or brick exterior construction that range in size from 1,571 to 1,767 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1968 to 1978. Each comparable has a basement/lower level ranging in size from 825 to 1,767 square feet with finished area ranging in size from 598 to 825 square feet, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 836 to 1,212 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$81,468 to \$101,761 or from \$48.72 to \$58.06 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 seven suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board finds all the comparables are relatively similar to the subject in location, design, dwelling size. However, the Board finds all of the comparables have inferior basements due to their smaller sizes and less basement finished. Additionally, none of the comparables have an additional garage, a feature of the subject. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$56,719 to \$101,761 or from \$39.89 to \$58.06 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$81,956 or \$60.53 per square foot of living area falls within the range in terms of total improvement assessment and above the range on a per square foot of living area basis established by the comparables. The subject's higher square foot basis appears to be logical given the subject's larger basement/lower level and its additional garage.

The constitutional provision for uniformity of taxation and valuation does not require mathematical equality. The requirement is satisfied if the intent is evident to adjust the taxation burden with a reasonable degree of uniformity and if such is the effect of the statute enacted by the General Assembly establishing the method of assessing real property in its general operation.

A practical uniformity, rather than an absolute one, is the test. Apex Motor Fuel Co. v. Barrett, 20 Ill.2d 395 (1960). Although the comparables presented by the parties disclosed that properties located in the same area are not assessed at identical levels, all that the constitution requires is a practical uniformity, which appears to exist on the basis of the evidence presented.

Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, 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 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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