



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

APPELLANT: Katherine Donovan
DOCKET NO.: 24-20622.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 11-29-101-010-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Katherine Donovan, the appellant, by attorney Michael R. O'Malley, 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: \$24,200
IMPR.: \$26,800
TOTAL: \$51,000

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 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 2-story dwelling of stucco exterior construction with 2,060 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 107 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement and one fireplace.¹ The property has an approximately 8,800 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Rogers Park Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-05 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 five equity comparables, none of which are located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with class 2-05, 2-story dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry

¹ The Board finds the best description of the subject was provided by the board of review, that was not refuted by the appellant.

exterior construction that range in size from 1,776 to 2,133 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 74 to 85 years old. Each comparable has a full basement finished with a recreation room. Three comparables have central air conditioning, four comparables each have either one or two fireplaces and four comparables each have from a 2-car to a 3-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$3,989 to \$14,346 or from \$2.18 to \$8.08 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$51,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$26,800 or \$13.01 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 in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with class 2-05, 2-story dwellings of stucco exterior construction that range in size from 1,747 to 2,032 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 104 to 115 years old. Each comparable has a full unfinished basement and either one or two fireplaces. Three comparables each have either a 1-car or 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$25,607 to \$29,800 or from \$13.27 to \$16.49 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 record contains nine suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables due to their differences from the subject central air conditioning amenity, age and/or finished basements.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables. The Board finds that these comparables are most similar to the subject in classification, design, age and some features. However, each comparable is slightly smaller in dwelling size and three comparables each have a garage, a feature the subject lacks, suggesting adjustments would be required to the comparables to make them more equivalent to the subject. Nevertheless, these most similar comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$25,607 to \$29,800 or from \$13.27 to \$16.49 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$26,800 or \$13.01 per square foot of living area falls within the range of the best comparables in this record on an overall improvement assessment basis but below the range on a per square foot basis. 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: _____

September 15, 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

State of Illinois
Property Tax Appeal Board
William G. Stratton Building, Room 402
401 South Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62706-4001

APPELLANT

Katherine Donovan, by attorney:
Michael R. O'Malley
Schmidt Salzman & Moran, Ltd.
111 West Washington St.
Suite 1300
Chicago, IL 60602

COUNTY

Cook County Board of Review
County Building, Room 601
118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60602