



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

APPELLANT: Paul McCarthy
DOCKET NO.: 24-21179.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-01-323-008-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Paul McCarthy, the appellant(s), by attorney Andreas Mamalakis, of the Law Offices of Andreas Mamalakis in Kenosha; 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: \$22,080
IMPR.: \$93,669
TOTAL: \$115,749

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 two-story single-family dwelling of masonry construction with 4,152 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 101 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, and a three-car garage. The property has a 18,400 square foot site located in River Forest, River Forest Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-06 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity, with respect to the improvement assessment, as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on five equity comparable properties with varying degrees of similarities to the subject that are located within a 0.30-mile and a 0.38-mile radius of the subject. The comparable properties are improved with two-story, class 2-06 dwellings of masonry construction that range in size from 3,648 to

4,240 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 87 to 102 years old. The comparable properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$18.34 to \$19.94 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$79,303 or \$19.10 per square foot of living area.

The Board of Review submitted its “Board of Review Notes on Appeal,” indicating a total assessment for the subject property of \$115,749. The property includes an improvement assessment of \$93,669, equating to \$22.56 per square foot of living area. To support its position regarding the accuracy of this assessment, the Board of Review provided data on four equity comparable properties, each exhibiting varying degrees of similarity to the subject property. All comparable properties are located either within a block or within a quarter-mile radius of the subject. Based on this evidence, the Board of Review requests confirmation of the subject property’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 Board determines that the most persuasive evidence of assessment equity consists of comparable properties #2 and #4 submitted by the Board of Review, and comparable properties #1 and #3 submitted by the appellant. These properties are similar to the subject in terms of size, age, design, and location, and reflect improvement assessments ranging from \$18.34 to \$24.95 per square foot of living area. The subject’s improvement assessment of \$22.56 per square foot falls within this established range.

After reviewing all comparable properties presented by both parties, with particular emphasis on those most proximate in location and most similar in size and features, and after considering appropriate adjustments for differences, the Board concludes that the subject’s improvement assessment is adequately supported. Furthermore, the Board finds that the appellant has not provided clear and convincing evidence that the subject property was inequitably assessed. Accordingly, a reduction in the subject’s assessment, as requested by the appellant, is not 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: _____

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

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

APPELLANT

Paul McCarthy, by attorney:
Andreas Mamalakis
Law Offices of Andreas Mamalakis
4844 89th Place
Kenosha, WI 53142

COUNTY

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