



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

APPELLANT: Alaa Matarieh
DOCKET NO.: 24-36350.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 24-09-403-053-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Alaa Matarieh, the appellant, by attorney George N. Reveliotis, of Reveliotis Law, P.C. in Park Ridge; 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: \$4,620
IMPR.: \$16,352
TOTAL: \$20,972

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 1-story dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction with 1,619 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 78 years old. Features include a crawl space foundation and 1½ bathrooms. The property has a 7,700 square foot site and is located in Oak Lawn, Worth 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 six equity comparables located within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables are improved with 1-story, class 2-03 dwellings of frame, masonry, or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,349 to 1,766 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 73 to 77 years old. Five comparables each have a slab foundation and one comparable has a crawl space foundation. Two comparables each have central air conditioning.

Each comparable has one or two fireplaces and from a 1-car to a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$9,014 to \$18,587 or from \$6.68 to \$11.00 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$16,352.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$23,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$18,380 or \$11.35 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four suggested equity comparables located within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables are improved with 1-story, class 2-03 dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,252 to 1,509 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in range from 69 to 77 years old. One comparable has a partial basement, two comparables each have a slab foundation, and one comparables has a crawl space foundation. One comparable has central air conditioning. One comparable has one fireplace. Each comparable has from a 1-car to a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$15,232 to \$19,380 or from \$12.17 to \$13.21 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested that the subject's assessment be confirmed.

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 ten suggested comparables for the Board's consideration, each of which has a garage amenity, unlike the subject. Nevertheless, the Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2, #5, and #6 as well as board of review comparables #1, #3, and #4 which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size than other comparables in this record, feature a basement foundation, which the subject lacks, and/or feature central air conditioning, unlike the subject. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the parties' remaining comparables which are overall most similar to the subject in design/class, age, and dwelling size with varying degrees of similarity in bathroom count, garage amenity, and other features. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$15,947 to \$19,380 or from \$10.80 to \$13.21 per square foot of living area. The subject property's improvement assessment of \$18,380 or \$11.35 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. However, after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, including but not limited to the garage amenity which each of the best comparables features, 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, commensurate with the appellant's request, 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:

April 21, 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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