



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

APPELLANT: Michael Guzzarde
DOCKET NO.: 24-43176.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-01-214-063-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michael Guzzarde, the appellant, by attorney Brian S. Maher, of Weis, DuBrock, Doody & Maher 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: \$15,625
IMPR.: \$23,644
TOTAL: \$39,269

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 masonry exterior construction with 1,884 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 74 years old and features a concrete slab foundation. The property has an approximately 6,250 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-04 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 four equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with class 2-04 dwellings of frame, masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,870 to 2,408 square feet of living area. The homes range from 69 to 75 years old. One comparable has a concrete slab foundation and three

comparables have a basement. Each dwelling has a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage and one home has central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$21,750 to \$32,250 or from \$10.85 to \$13.39 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$23,644 or \$12.55 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 \$46,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$30,375 or \$16.12 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 1-story class 2-03 or class 2-04 dwellings of masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,548 to 1,844 square feet of living area. The homes are from 69 to 71 years old. Each comparable has a basement and a 1-car or a 2-car garage. Three dwellings have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$28,453 to \$30,633 or from \$16.61 to \$18.65 per square foot of living area.

The board of review also submitted information in their grid analysis disclosing the subject property sold in May 2024 for a price of \$517,500. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested 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.

As an initial matter, the Board notes the board of review submitted evidence the subject property sold in May 2024 for a price of \$517,500, however, market value evidence is not responsive to this equity appeal and therefore, the Board gives the subject's May 2024 sale price little weight.

The parties submitted eight equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives reduced weight to appellant comparables #1 and #4 along with board of review comparables #3 and #4 which are less similar to the subject in classification and dwelling size than other properties in the record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant comparables #2 and #3 as well as board of review comparables #1 and #2 which are more similar to the subject in location, age, classification, dwelling size and some features. However, these comparables present varying degrees of similarity to the subject in foundation type, presence of central air conditioning and garage amenity, suggesting adjustments are needed to make these properties more equivalent to the subject. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from

\$23,935 to \$30,633 or from \$12.64 to \$16.77 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$30,375 or \$16.12 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 from the subject, 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 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: _____

July 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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