FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Cheryle McGowan
DOCKET NO.: 24-52908.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 17-22-304-047-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Cheryle McGowan, 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:	$20,515
IMPR.:	$61,485
TOTAL:	$82,000

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 3-story townhome of masonry exterior construction with 2,265 square feet of living area[1] and is approximately 21 years old. Features include a partial basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 2-car garage. The property has a 1,179 square foot site and is located in Chicago, South Chicago Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-95 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 five equity

[1] The appellant's evidence is internally inconsistent regarding the subject's property characteristics. The Board finds the subject dwelling is approximately 21 years old and has 2,265 square feet of living area according to the property characteristics printout provided by the appellant and the board of review's grid analysis.

comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood as the subject, along with property characteristics sheets that were used by the Board to verify or correct some data in the grid analysis. The comparables are improved with 3-story, class 2-95 townhomes of masonry exterior construction each containing 2,146 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 24 or 26 years old. Each comparable has a slab foundation, central air conditioning, and a 1-car garage. Two comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $38,804 to $39,430 or from $18.08 to $18.37 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to $61,485 or $18.33 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 $82,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of $61,485 or $27.15 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 within the same neighborhood and block as the subject property. Three comparables are also located along the subject's street. The comparables are improved with 3-story, class 2-95 townhomes of masonry exterior construction with either 2,264 or 2,265 square feet of living area. The dwellings are each 22 years old. Three comparables each have a partial basement, and comparable #4 has a slab foundation. Each comparable has central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $65,703 to $71,381 or from $29.02 to $31.51 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted nine suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables and the board of review's comparable #4 which lack a basement foundation, unlike the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #1, #2 and #3 which are located within the same assessment neighborhood, block and/or street as the subject and are identical or nearly identical to the subject in location, design, age, dwelling size, foundation type and other features. These three comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $67,104 to $71,381 or from $29.63 to $31.51 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of $61,485 or $27.15 per square foot of living area falls below the range established by the best comparables in the record. 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 subject's 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:

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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: November 17, 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 9-215 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

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