



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

APPELLANT: Frank Tovar  
DOCKET NO.: 19-41997.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 13-35-214-012-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Frank Tovar, the appellant, by attorney Ellen G. Berkshire, of Verros Berkshire in Oakbrook Terrace; 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:** \$7,170  
**IMPR.:** \$33,297  
**TOTAL:** \$40,467

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 2019 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, multi-family building of frame exterior construction with 2,784 square feet of building area. The building is approximately 110 years old, has a concrete slab foundation and a 2-car garage. The property has a 4,945 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 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 comparables located within the same neighborhood code as the subject and located within 1.4 miles of the subject. The comparables are improved with class 2-11, multi-family buildings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 2,444 to 2,795 square feet of building area. The buildings range in age from 4 to 120 years old. Three comparables have concrete slab foundations, and

one comparable has an unfinished basement. Two comparables each have central air conditioning, and two comparables have either a 1-car or a 2.5-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$14,519 to \$21,009 or from \$5.73 to \$7.52 per square foot of building area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$18,987 or \$6.82 per square foot of building area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$40,467. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$33,297 or \$11.96 per square foot of building area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four comparables located within the same neighborhood code as the subject. The board of review reported the furthest comparable is about .25 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with class 2-11, two-story, multi-family buildings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 2,120 to 2,741 square feet of building area. The buildings range in age from 114 to 116 years old. Each comparable has an unfinished basement and either a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$29,086 to \$42,816 or from \$13.66 to \$16.00 per square foot of building area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **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 parties submitted eight equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables which are less proximate in location to the subject than the other comparables in this record or have considerably newer ages and lower improvement assessments when compared to the subject. The Board also gives less weight to the board of review comparable #2 due to its smaller building size when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #1, #3 and #4. These comparables are more similar to the subject in location, design, age, building size, and most features, except each comparable has a basement which the subject lacks. These three comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$36,863 to \$42,816 or from \$13.66 to \$16.00 per square foot of building area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$33,297 or \$11.96 per square foot of building area falls below the range established by the best comparables in this record, which is logical considering the subject lacks a basement. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the comparables for differences when compared to 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.



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Chairman



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Member



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Member



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Member

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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 19, 2023



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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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