

**CALGARY  
ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD  
DECISION WITH REASONS**

In the matter of the complaint against the property assessment as provided by the *Municipal Government Act*, Chapter M-26, Section 460, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 (the Act).

**between:**

***Somerset Crossing Inc.***  
***(as represented by Colliers International Realty Advisors Inc.), COMPLAINANT***

**and**

***The City Of Calgary, RESPONDENT***

**before:**

***M. Vercillo, PRESIDING OFFICER***  
***R. Deschaine, MEMBER***  
***I. Fraser, MEMBER***

This is a complaint to the Calgary Assessment Review Board in respect of property assessments prepared by the Assessor of The City of Calgary and entered in the 2012 Assessment Roll as follows:

**ROLL NUMBER: 758195705**

**LOCATION ADDRESS: 16315 SOMERCREST ST SW**

**FILE NUMBER: 68514**

**ASSESSMENT: \$2,090,000**

This complaint was heard on 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012 at the office of the Assessment Review Board located at Floor Number 4, 1212 – 31 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta, Boardroom 11.

Appeared on behalf of the Complainant:

- *T. Howell*

Appeared on behalf of the Respondent:

- *R.C. Ford*

**Board's Decision in Respect of Procedural or Jurisdictional Matters:**

[1] The Calgary Composite Assessment Review Board (CARB) derives its authority to make this decision under Part 11 of the Act. No specific jurisdictional or procedural issues were raised during the course of the hearing, and the CARB proceeded to hear the merits of the complaint, as outlined below.

**Property Description:**

[2] The subject property is a retail strip shopping centre located in the "Somerset" community of southwest (SW) Calgary. According to the information provided, the property contains one building that was constructed in 2001, and is 4,460 square feet (SF) in size. The building is situated on an assessable land area of 33,369 SF and has a land use designation of Commercial – Neighbourhood 2.

[3] The subject is assessed using the Income Approach to Value. The building is considered a "B+" quality building and accordingly is assessed by applying a market net rental rate of \$23.00 per SF on the commercial retail unit (CRU) spaces of 0 SF to 1,000 SF; \$22.00 per SF on the CRU spaces of 1,001 SF to 2,500 SF. Combined with a gas bar/convenience store, potential gross income (PGI) of \$168,673 is calculated. All spaces include allowances for a 5.00% vacancy rate, operating costs of \$8.00 and a 1.00% non-recoverable rate. The resulting calculation for net operating income (NOI) is capitalized for assessment purposes using a 7.50% capitalization rate (cap rate).

**Issues:**

[4] The Complainant addressed the following issues at this hearing:

- 1) The assessed cap rate applied in the Income Approach to value is not consistent with cap rates achieved during the assessment year and should be increased to 8.25%.

**Complainant's Requested Value:**

[5] \$1,755,600 on the complaint form. \$1,900,000 at this hearing.

**Board's Decision in Respect of Each Matter or Issue:**

**ISSUE 1:** The assessed cap rate applied in the Income Approach to value is not consistent with cap rates achieved during the assessment year and should be increased to 8.25%.

**The Complainant** provided a 28 page disclosure document that was entered as "Exhibit C1". The Complainant along with Exhibit C1 provided the following evidence or argument with respect to this issue:

[6] A chart comparing the cap rates of 4 comparable retail strip shopping centres that sold in 2011 and prior to the valuation date of July 1, 2011. These sales were the same ones used by the Respondent in his analysis (see below), but restricted to 2011 sales. The cap rates ranged from 5.96% to 9.27% with an average of 7.93% and a median of 8.24%.

**The Respondent** provided a 58 page disclosure document that was entered as "Exhibit R1". The Respondent along with Exhibit R1 provided the following evidence or argument with respect to this issue:

[7] A chart comparing the cap rates of 16 comparable retail strip shopping centres that sold from July, 2009 to June, 2011. The cap rates ranged from 5.88% to 9.27% with an average of 7.38% and a median of 7.48%. Within the same chart, the Respondent compared the 2012 assessments of the comparables to the time-adjusted sales prices of the comparables. The resulting assessment to sales ratio (ASR) varied from 0.75 to 1.23, with an average and median of 0.99.

[8] A CB Richard Ellis Canadian Cap Rate survey for the second quarter of 2011. The Respondent pointed out that according to this survey, Calgary non-anchored retail strip shopping centre cap rates varied from 7.25% to 7.75%.

[9] A CB Richard Ellis Canadian Cap Rate survey for the third quarter of 2011. The Respondent pointed out that according to this survey, Calgary non-anchored retail strip shopping centre cap rates varied from 7.00% to 7.50%.

[10] A CB Richard Ellis Canadian Cap Rate survey for the fourth quarter of 2011. The Respondent pointed out that according to this survey, Calgary non-anchored retail strip shopping centre cap rates varied from 7.00% to 7.50%.

[11] A Colliers International Canada Cap Rate survey for the second quarter of 2011. The Respondent pointed out that according to this survey, Calgary retail strip shopping centre cap rates varied from 6.75% to 7.50%.

**The CARB** finds the following with respect to this issue:

[12] That the ASR analysis of the Respondent was supportive of the assessment

comparables.

[13] That the Complainant did not provide an alternative ASR analysis using his requested cap rate of 8.25%.

[14] That the third party cap rate surveys provided by the Respondent are supportive of the Respondent's cap rate and not supportive of the Complainant's requested cap rate.

**Board's Decision:**

[15] The complaint is denied and the assessment is confirmed at \$2,090,000

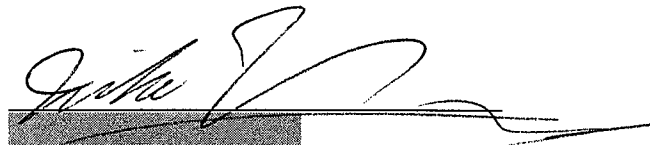
**The CARB** provides the following reasons for the decision:

[16] The Complainant failed to provide adequate evidence to substantively support his cap rate request.

[17] The ASR test as provided by the Respondent supported the assessment parameters used by the Respondent in his Income Approach valuation. The Complainant failed to calculate the ASR's using his alternative cap rate calculation for the sales comparables. In the absence of better and more supportive evidence to the contrary, the Respondent's assessment prevails.

[18] The third party cap rate surveys were not supportive of the Complainant's requested cap rate.

DATED AT THE CITY OF CALGARY THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF November 2012.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer

**APPENDIX "A"****DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT THE HEARING  
AND CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:**

| <b>NO.</b> | <b>ITEM</b>            |
|------------|------------------------|
| 1. C1      | Complainant Disclosure |
| 2. R1      | Respondent Disclosure  |

*An appeal may be made to the Court of Queen's Bench on a question of law or jurisdiction with respect to a decision of an assessment review board.*

*Any of the following may appeal the decision of an assessment review board:*

- (a) the complainant;*
- (b) an assessed person, other than the complainant, who is affected by the decision;*
- (c) the municipality, if the decision being appealed relates to property that is within the boundaries of that municipality;*
- (d) the assessor for a municipality referred to in clause (c).*

*An application for leave to appeal must be filed with the Court of Queen's Bench within 30 days after the persons notified of the hearing receive the decision, and notice of the application for leave to appeal must be given to*

- (a) the assessment review board, and*
- (b) any other persons as the judge directs.*

**(For MGB Office Only)**

| <b>Column 1</b> | <b>Column 2</b> | <b>Column 3</b> | <b>Column 4</b> | <b>Column 5</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| CARB            | Retail          | Strip Plaza     | Income Approach | Cap Rate        |
|                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |