

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:

Industrial 5000 Real Estate Investments Inc. (as represented by Altus Group Limited), COMPLAINANT

and

The City Of Calgary, RESPONDENT

before:

B. Horrocks, PRESIDING OFFICER
J. Massey, BOARD MEMBER
J. Pratt, BOARD MEMBER

This is a complaint to the Calgary Assessment Review Board in respect of a property assessment prepared by the Assessor of The City of Calgary and entered in the 2014 Assessment Roll as follows:

ROLL NUMBER:

094220605

LOCATION ADDRESS:

4750 43 ST SE

FILE NUMBER:

74589

ASSESSMENT:

\$9,950,000

This complaint was heard on the 16th day of July, 2014 at the office of the Assessment Review Board located at Floor Number 4, 1212 – 31 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta, Boardroom 4.

Appeared on behalf of the Complainant:

J. Weber (Altus Group Limited)

Appeared on behalf of the Respondent:

• J. Ermube (City of Calgary)

CARB's Decision in Respect of Procedural or Jurisdictional Matters:

- [1] There were no concerns with the CARB as constituted.
- [2] The parties have visited the site.
- [3] The parties have not discussed the file.
- [4] There were no preliminary matters. The merit hearing proceeded.

Property Description:

- [5] The subject property is a 4.24 acre parcel located in the Eastfield Industrial community in SE Calgary. The site is improved with a 99,615 square foot (sf) single tenanted industrial warehouse (IWS) that was constructed in 2000 and is classified as A- quality. The warehouse contains 99,615 sf of assessable area, 5.0% finish and 53.92% site coverage.
- [6] The subject property is assessed at the rate of \$99.88 per square foot (psf) using the Sales Comparison Approach to value.

Issues:

[7] An assessment amount was identified on the Assessment Review Board Complaint Form as the matter that applies to the complaint. At the outset of the hearing, the Complainant advised that there was one outstanding issue, namely; "the assessment of the subject property is not fair and equitable considering the assessed value and assessment classification of comparable properties."

Complainant's Requested Value: \$8,955,000 (Complaint Form)

\$8,600,000 (Hearing)

CARB's Decision:

[8] The 2014 assessment is confirmed at \$9,950,000.

Legislative Authority, Requirements and Considerations:

The Composite Assessment Review Board (CARB) derives its authority from the Act, Section 460.1:

(2) Subject to section 460.1(1), a composite assessment review board has jurisdiction to hear complaints about any matter referred to in section 460(5) that is shown on an assessment notice for property other than property described in subsection(1)(a).

The Act requires that:

293(1) In preparing an assessment, the assessor must, in a fair and equitable manner,

- (a) apply the valuation and other standards set out in the regulations, and
- (b) follow the procedures set out in the regulations.

Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation (MRAT) requires that:

- 2 An assessment of property based on market value
 - (a) must be prepared using mass appraisal,
 - (b) must be an estimate of the value of the fee simple estate in the property, and
 - (c) must reflect typical market conditions for properties similar to that property.
- 4(1) The valuation standard for a parcel of land is
 - (a) market value, or
 - (b) if the parcel is used for farming operations, agricultural use value

CARB's Decision in Respect of Each Matter or Issue

Issue: Is the subject property inequitably assessed considering the assessed value and assessment classification of comparable properties?

Complainant's Position:

- [9] The Complainant's Disclosure is labelled C-1.
- [10] The Complainant, on page 12, provided a table titled Equity Comparables. The table contains assessment details of three equity comparables. The site area of the comparables ranges from 5.98 acres to 7.70 acres, while the subject property is 4.24 acres, smaller than the comparables. The assessable building area of the comparables ranges from 142,382 sf to 177,002 sf, while the assessable building area of the subject property is 99,615 sf, smaller than the comparables. The site coverage of the comparables ranges from 42% to 55%, while the site coverage of the subject property is 53.92%. The assessment per square foot (Asmt/sf) of the comparables ranges from \$70.99 to \$86.74 with a median Asmt/sf of \$86.38. The Complainant requested the subject property be equitably assessed at the rate of \$86.38 psf. The Complainant noted the best comparable is the property located at 5555 78 AVSE and it is assessed at the rate of \$86.74 psf.

Respondent's Position:

- [11] The Respondent's Disclosure is labelled R-1.
- [12] The Respondent noted that all of the Complainant's comparables have a much larger assessable building area than the subject property and they are all assessed at a lower rate than the subject property.
- [13] The Respondent, on page 17, provided a table titled 2014 Industrial Equity Chart. The table contains assessment details of five comparable properties, all [IWS] and all located in the SE. The site area of the comparables ranges from 2.63 acres to 6.68 acres, while the subject property is 4.24 acres. The assessable building area of the comparables ranges from 60,700 sf to 136,897 sf, while the subject has an assessable building area of 99,615 sf. The site coverage of the comparables ranges from 31.99% to 51.71%, while the subject site coverage is 53.92%. The Asmt/sf of the comparables ranges from \$88.31 to \$120.85, while the subject is assessed at the rate of \$99.93 psf. The Respondent noted that its best comparable is the property located at 4800 27 ST SE. That comparable has lower site coverage than the subject property and higher finish than the subject property and should be assessed at a higher rate than the subject property, and it is.

CARB's Findings:

- [14] The CARB finds the comparables provided by the Complainant are not comparable as they are much larger in land area than the subject property and they have considerably more assessable building area than the subject property.
- [15] The CARB finds the comparables provided by the Respondent bracket the subject property in both land area and assessable building area. The subject property should be assessed at a rate within the range of the comparables, and it is.

CARB's Reasons for Decision:

- [16] The Complainant's comparables are not comparable to the subject property.
- [17] The subject property is equitably assessed in the range of similar and competing properties.

DATED AT THE CITY OF CALGARY THIS _ _ DAY OF _ AUGUST _____ 2014.

B. Horrocks

Presiding Officer

APPENDIX "A"

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT THE HEARING AND CONSIDERED BY THE CARB:

NO.	ITEM	
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 Administrative Use Only

Property Type	Property Sub-Type	Issue	Sub-Issue
Warehouse	Single Tenant	Equity	